FIGHTING BACK

SOME REAL-LIFE SUPERHEROES, LIKE SEATTLE'S PURPLE REIGN, WERE ONCE VICTIMS THEMSELVES. FIND OUT WHAT MOTIVATES THEM TO HELP OTHERS PAGES 14-15

VANCOUVER metro®

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

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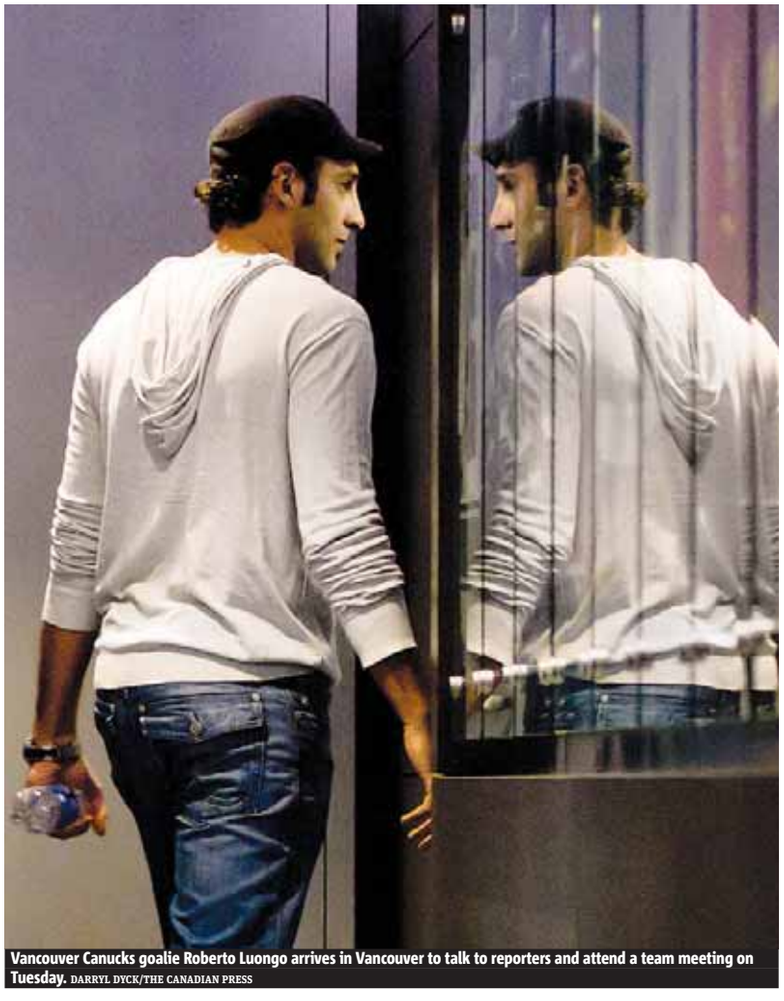

Vancouver Canucks goalie Roberto Luongo arrives in Vancouver to talk to reporters and attend a team meeting on Tuesday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Is Roberto Luon-gone?

Next steps. Canucks goalie Roberto Luongo says he would waive no-trade clause if asked

The Vancouver Canucks headed into an off-season that could see significant change Tuesday with goaltending and coaching among the most pressing decisions facing Mike Gillis.

The Canucks general manager says he's unsure about what he's going to do with his goalies, but both Roberto Luongo and Cory Schneider are clearly capable starters.

The difference is Luongo has 10 years left on his contract, while Schneider can become a restricted free agent on July 1. Schneider also replaced Luongo as the team's No. 1 netminder two games into the Canucks' stunning five-game first round exit to the Los Angeles Kings.

Luongo says he won't stand in the way if the Canucks want to move him.

"I don't want to be one of those guys that is going to stand in the way of anything," he said as players cleaned out their lockers. "I always want to put the team ahead of me first, and I don't want to be one of those selfish guys."

Luongo added he will do what's best for the team. "Even though I have a no-trade (clause), it is not my decision," said Luongo. "Obviously, we've got a guy here that's going to be a superstar in this league for the next 10, 12, 15 years. So I'm OK with that as well."

Luongo posted a 31-14-8 record during the regular season with five shutouts for the Presidents' Trophy winners. He recorded a 2.41 goals-against average and .919 save percentage as he and Schneider (20-8-1, three shutouts) ranked fourth in the NHL in team goaltending.

The 33-year-old is a three-time all-star and ranks as Vancouver's all-time winningest goaltender. He also has a William Jennings Trophy to his credit after he and Schneider led the league in goaltending in 2010-11.

The 26-year-old Schneider feels he has earned the right to be a starter in Vancouver or elsewhere, but disagreed he has displaced Luongo with the Canucks. "It can't just be me pounding my fist, demanding things," he said. "It has to be whatever they decide to do and that has to be in accordance with what I feel is good for me as well."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Workers run for their lives

Second B.C. sawmill explosion kills one and injures 10, prompting inspections PAGE 3

Ladies, it's a shoe sale

More than 110,000 pairs of shoes on sale at the 63rd Army & Navy shoe event PAGE 6

Not for the claustrophobic

Explore an underwater oasis via submarine in Oahu, Hawaii PAGE 20

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Review

Safety inspections launched after two deadly explosions

Two deadly explosions in northern British Columbia sawmills in recent months have prompted a sweeping review of safety in all sawmills in the province and raised concerns about whether the extremely fine dust from pine-beetle ravaged timber is part of the problem.

Shift supervisor Alan Little, 43, died Tuesday after being rushed to hospital following a massive blast at the Lakeland sawmill in Prince George.

In January, an explosion at the Babine Forest Products in Burns Lake killed two and 18 others were sent to hospital.

Steve Hunt, United Steelworkers Western Canada director, said Tuesday there's obviously a serious problem with the province's sawmilling industry.

"These people have just survived the events at Burns Lake and probably have not comes to terms with what they saw and what they've heard and suddenly they've been thrust right back into another tragic event that obviously brings back really vivid memories," he said in an interview.

Last week, WorkSafe B.C. said it is still investigating the Burns Lake blast and a report could be months away.

Independent Caribou North MLA Bob Simpson said he wondered if the pine beetle that has caused so much damage to the B.C. forest industry is also responsible for heightened safety hazards.

"There is growing anecdotal evidence that (mountain pine beetle-killed) logs may be producing combustible materials that interior sawmills were not designed to address," Simpson said in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Flames engulf Lakeland Sawmill late Monday in Prince George. Workers on the evening shift at a city sawmill were forced to run for their lives after an earth-shaking explosion and massive fire sent walls crumbling on top of them. DAVID MAH/PRINCE GEORGE CITIZEN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sawmills to be inspected after deadly explosion

'Gruesome' scene. The blast killed a shift supervisor in what was the second deadly explosion this year

Workers on the evening shift at a city sawmill were forced to run for their lives after an earth-shaking explosion and massive fire sent walls crumbling on top of them, killing one person and leaving 10 others in serious or critical condition.

It was the second deadly explosion this year, prompting the B.C. government to announce all sawmills in the province will be inspected for safety.

Labour Minister Margaret MacDiarmid said she will "send an order out to all the sawmills in the province asking them, telling them, instructing them to inspect from top to bottom their mills, to make sure all steps are being taken to address current safety policy."

Monday's blast killed shift supervisor Alan Little, 43. The B.C. Coroner's Service identified him in a news release and extended condolences to his family while noting the family has asked for privacy.

Workers frantically scrambled to help each other after the explosion, with one saying he used scissors to cut charred clothing off those whose burned skin was dripping.

"It was quite gruesome," said Brian Croy, first vice-president of the United Steelworkers Local 1-424, in an interview from his home.

"When you walk out, there (were) guys with their skin hanging off their arms and stuff, from being burned."

Croy said he was among six people inside the mill's lunchroom talking about training when the explosion happened.

"That thing came up so fast, so quick. I don't know where it came from, but it was almost like a cannon going off. It blew through there. It ended just that quick," he said.

He said the explosion knocked the lunchroom's plywood walls down on top of him, but there was a little bit of space between him and the collapsed wall.

The mill's lights remained on, but dark smoke engulfed him and he had to put a coat over his face so he could breathe.

"I thought: 'This is it.' I consciously stuck my face in my coat, and it (the smoke) went away."

He and his coworkers got out through the gap in the outside wall created by the explosion. Behind them, smaller explosions went off.

"It's almost like you were coming out of the war zone. Everything was levelled. I met that one fellow. I think his fingers were blown off, and his clothing — a lot of it was gone. It was burned off and his hair."

Croy said he asked the injured co-worker to follow him and others to a first-aid station, located outside the mill and near a planer.

At the first-aid station, injured workers were sitting on a tarp, holding up their burned arms and hands, he said. Some were moaning but others were in shock and were quiet.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1 NEWS

On the web

Ruff life in rehab

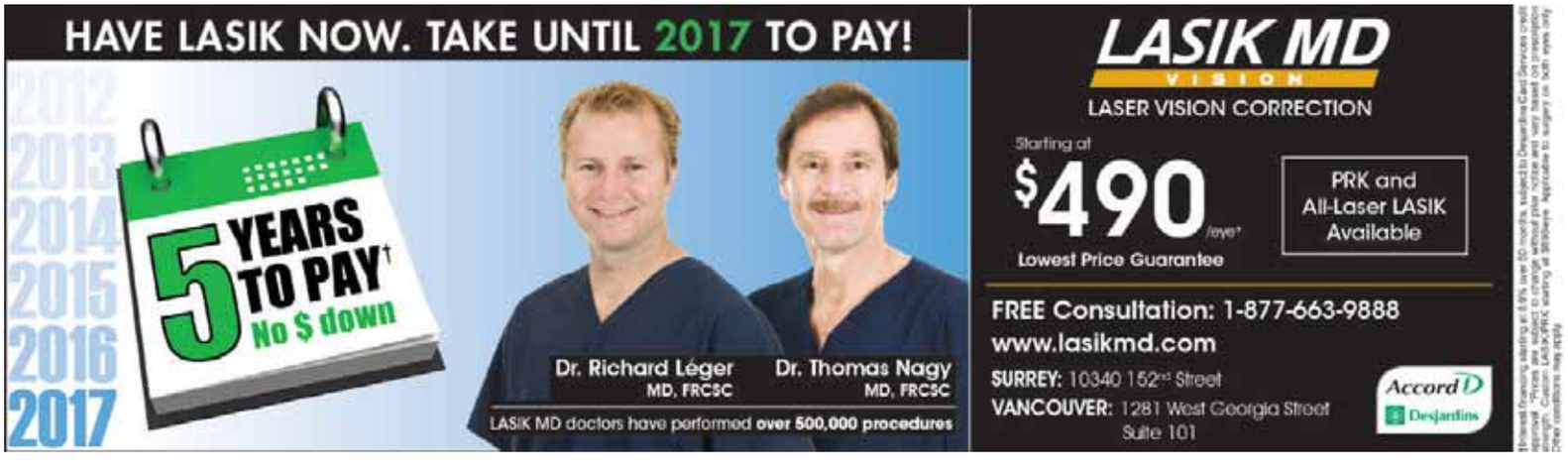
Four-legged victims of disasters, dogfighting operations and puppy mills are now being given a second chance. The American SPCA has set up a rehab centre for rescued furry friends. Watch the video at metronews.ca.

A 'hole' lot of trouble

A young girl plunged about seven metres after a hole opened up beneath her feet as she walked on a sidewalk. The shocking footage was captured on a security camera in China's Shaanxi Province. Watch at metronews.ca.

Mobile news

Two men have been arrested after a dangerous booby trap was found on a Utah hiking trail. A 20-pound spiked boulder was rigged with trip wire to swing at head level. Scan the code for the story.



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Mayor Gregor Robertson signs a petition against the proposed Kinder Morgan oil-pipeline expansion at Sunday's Earth Day festivities on Commercial Drive. GRAHAM TEMPLETON/METRO FILE

Expanded pipeline not part of mayor's Vision

It's official. Vision party announces formal opposition to Kinder Morgan expansion

MATT KIELTYKA
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Vancouver's ruling civic party has vowed to "use absolutely every tool" to fight Kinder Morgan's proposed $5-billion pipeline expansion.

Vision Vancouver announced Tuesday that it will bring forward two motions, one at city council and one at the park board, opposing the project.

"We will use absolutely every tool at our disposal to protect Vancouver's vibrant local economy and natural environment from the enormous risks posed by the threat of a catastrophic oil spill," Mayor Gregor Robertson said in a prepared statement.

The motion, to be introduced at city hall next Tuesday, asks staff to prepare a bylaw that would require pipeline operators to indemnify the City of Vancouver "at levels equivalent to a worst-case spill."

The park board, meanwhile, plans to vote Monday on a motion that would state its formal opposition.

Comm. Niki Sharma said the board is still looking into any steps it can take, but felt it was important to take a public stance.

"Our job is to preserve our beaches and park spaces in the city," she said. "If a spill happened, we'd be the ones on the front lines dealing with it, so it is within our mandate."

Sharma is encouraging citizens to express their thoughts on the pipeline to the board.

"We want to hear from the public. I'm sure there will be a diverse range of opinions."

Kinder Morgan wants to boost the amount of crude oil being shipped out of the Burrard Inlet to 850,000 barrels a day from 300,000, by twinning the Trans Mountain pipeline, which runs from Edmonton to Burnaby and Washington state. The plan first must undergo a review by the federal National Energy Board.

Cassiar Tunnel

Two killed in highway crash

A man and woman are dead after an early Monday crash on the Trans-Canada Highway north of the Cassiar Tunnel.

Police believe the vehicle crashed through a concrete barrier on the Highway 1 on-ramp above and rolled down the embankment onto the freeway.

"It's hard to say at this early stage exactly how the vehicle came down the embankment," Const. Lindsey Houghton said Tuesday. "It would take a significant amount of speed to dislodge those concrete barriers that separate the roadway from the embankment."

These are Vancouver's sixth and seventh traffic-related deaths this year.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Car theft

Joy rider hits, injures RCMP officer

An RCMP officer was seriously injured Tuesday when hit by a suspect fleeing in a stolen vehicle.

Officers were responding to a complaint of a stolen vehicle in Richmond.

When they confronted the suspect, the man jumped back into the stolen car and sped away, ramming two police cruisers and hitting a plainclothes officer and a civilian vehicle.

He was eventually apprehended.

The injured officer is still in hospital with injuries that are serious but not life-threatening.

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

Accident.

Cyclist dies in collision

A 15-year-old boy from Squamish is dead after being struck by a taxi on Highway 99, RCMP say.

The collision happened late Saturday night and the driver co-operated with police.

Dean McCall was airlifted to B.C. Children's Hospital in Vancouver but died of severe head injuries.

Family members, through police, asked other cyclists to be careful while riding on the highway at night, ensuring they wear reflective gear, lights and helmets. Mounties did not say whether McCall took all of those safety precautions.

Speed, alcohol and distracted driving have been ruled out as factors in the accident.

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Lima	from $570 + taxes & fees $462

Europe

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INCLUDES first 2 nights accom on O'Connell Street near Temple Bar. **ADD** Guinness Storehouse tour from $22

Paris Air + First 2 Nights — from $308 + taxes & fees $513
INCLUDES central accom near the Paris Opera.

Amsterdam
Air + First 2 Nights — from $389 + taxes & fees $486
INCLUDES accom near the Dam Square.

London Air + 6 Nights — from $504 + taxes & fees $569
INCLUDES central accom near Russell Square and the British Museum. **ADD** London Eye Champagne ticket from $61.

Paris & London
Air + 7 Nights — from $749 + taxes & fees $646
INCLUDES all airfare, 3 nights central Paris accom and 4 nights central London accom.
ADD Illuminations of Paris tour from $34.

May Long Weekend

Whistler
3 Nights 4-Star + Spa
from **$224**
taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom over the May Long Weekend and Scandinavian Spa Baths access. **UPGRADE** to 5-star accom from $62 per night.

Quadra Island
Family Special, 3 Nights — from $125◊ taxes & fees included
INCLUDES cottage-style accom over the May Long Weekend. Price per person based on family of 4. **BONUS** cultural centre admission for kids included. **BOOK** this package based on double occupancy from $279.

Campbell River
3 Nights + Tour — from $325 taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom on Vancouver Island over the May Long Weekend and 4-hour guided fishing tour.

Sunshine Coast
2 Nights + Tour — from $375 taxes & fees included
INCLUDES cliff-side accom over the May Long Weekend and 3-hour guided kayaking on the Sechelt Inlet.

USA

Las Vegas Air + 3 Nights
from **$169***
+ taxes & fees $46
INCLUDES airfare from Bellingham and accom on the Strip.

Anaheim
Family Special, Air + 3 Nights — from $219◊ + taxes & fees $105
INCLUDES accom near theme parks. Price per person based on family of 4. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $9 per night. **ADD** 3-day *Disneyland* Resort *Park Hopper* Bonus Ticket from $208/adult, $192/child (ages 3-9). **BOOK** this package based on double occupancy from $269.

Palm Springs Air + 3 Nights — from $289 + taxes & fees $126
INCLUDES central accom near shopping and restaurants.

San Francisco Air + 3 Nights — from $409 + taxes & fees $145
INCLUDES Fisherman's Wharf accom. **ADD** Urban Safari with Alcatraz from $165.

Orlando
Family Special, Air + 7 Nights — from $569◊ + taxes & fees $132
INCLUDES central accom with free transportation to major attractions. Price per person based on family of 4. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $5 per night. **ADD** Universal 3-Day Park to Park Ticket from $153/adult, 141/child (ages 3-9). **BOOK** this package based on double occupancy from $659.

Hawaii Air + 5 Nights — from $599 + taxes & fees $142
INCLUDES accom near Waikiki Beach.

New York City
Air + 3 Nights 4-Star — from $659 + taxes & fees $174
INCLUDES downtown Manhattan accom.
ADD Empire State Building from $21.

Vacations

Rio de Janeiro
Air + 7 Nights — from $1385 + taxes & fees $430
INCLUDES accom near the beach. **ADD** city tour and Sugarloaf Mountain from $109.

Singapore Air + 8 Nights — from $1409 + taxes & fees $505
INCLUDES central accom. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $17 per night. **ADD** night safari from $52.

Cape Town Air + 8 Nights — from $1549 + taxes & fees $682
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Army & Navy footwear buyer Silvio Urbani holds a bunch of shoes from newly opened boxes Tuesday at the Gastown location's stockroom. PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Shoe sale is not for loafers

Bargains. Great deals to be had at annual Army & Navy sale

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
phylicia.torrevillas@metronews.ca

Thousands of women will put their best feet forward to score great deals at the annual Army & Navy shoe sale.

Silvio Urbani, Army & Navy footwear buyer, said people usually expect a madhouse during this annual event, but it's become gentler over the years.

"Years ago, I called it the running of the bulls, but it's no longer that," he said. "It's calmed down. I think it is society in general. People are more hospitable and they work together. They're like, 'Oh those ones look really good' or 'You get those, I'll get those' and they don't even know each other.

"It's totally night and day of what it was. When I first started, there were actual 'That's my shoe, that's my shoe.' I've seen people chuck a shoe at someone, but that's going back many, many years."

The 63rd annual Army & Navy shoe sale starts Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. The sale runs until May 6.

Urbani said more than 110,000 pairs of shoes will be up for grabs at Army & Navy's five locations in Alberta and B.C. — including Vancouver's Gastown store and New Westminster location. Shoe shopaholics can get a chance to buy shoes from top-line designers such as BCBG, Betsey Johnson, Jessica Simpson, Calvin Klein and Coach for under $40.

"We don't cater just to that person who's going clubbing or going out to party," he said. "We're looking at the persons going in every day to their office.

"Everything is simple, straightforward and conservative," he added. "But you're also sure to find a gem — the diamond in the rough."

Urbani said he wants to provide women's fashion at a value and give them an enjoyable experience.

"It's about a community getting together, having a blast," he added. "It's like a big tea party, but with better shoes."

Surviving the sale

Urbani gives his top tips to make your shoe-sale shopping go smoothly.

1. Bring a water bottle to keep you hydrated.
2. Wear shoes that are easy to take on and off.
3. Wear comfortable clothing, so you can move out and about.
4. Bring a friend and just have fun.

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Terracotta warriors invade B.C. streets

A collection of terracotta warriors modelled after the original third-century-BC Chinese Terracotta Army was unveiled Tuesday at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden in Chinatown. KATE WEBB/METRO

See for yourself. Map with locations of all warriors stationed in Vancouver, Richmond, Burnaby, Whitehorse can be found at terracottawarriors.ca

KATE WEBB
kate.webb@metronews.ca

Move over, orcas, bears and eagles: 34 hand-painted terracotta warriors are the new tourist attractions being installed around B.C. and Yukon to help raise funds for children with disabilities.

The BC Lions Society-commissioned statues, modelled after the original third-century-BC Terracotta Army first uncovered in China in 1974, were unveiled Tuesday at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden in Chinatown.

"When an artist came to us ... I would talk to them about their vision, and I would make sure that the story they had to tell was a significant story that showed some connection with Asian culture," said BC Lions Society president and CEO Stephen Miller.

After being put on public display in various communities for the summer, the unique works of art will be auctioned off to raise funds for Easter Seals Houses and Camps for children with disabilities.

The description at the base of each statue reveals its link to Asian culture, in case it's not clear at first glace.

Artist Una-Ann Moyer, a Tahltan-Tlingit First Nations artist, designed her armour-clad "Tlingit Warrior" based on an ancestral link with Chinese traders.

"There's Chinese coins that were found up in Alaska, and that of course would be the trading with the Tlingit," she said. "They would dig some of these coins up and use them on the front of their armour, and that's why I designed the Tlingit Warrior."

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Real-time info. Next stop for Next Bus: Open source

Wondering where your bus is?

Real-time information is now at commuters' fingertips after TransLink rolled out the latest iteration of its Next Bus mobile site.

The new features let people find out precisely where their bus is (on an interactive real-time map or through text) and its estimated arrival time.

"The difference is now people will be able to know exactly when their bus is going to be there, as opposed to the scheduled time," said TransLink spokesperson Drew Snider. "It takes away the uncertainty of not knowing whether the bus left early or is running late. It will also show whether the bus has been cancelled for any reason."

The real-time tracking system, found at m.translink.ca, is modelled after similar projects in New York, Boston, Chicago and Portland.

Now that the service has been rolled out, TransLink hopes to put even more power in commuters' hands by making the information open-sourced.

Developers will be able to access TransLink's real-time data and code, allowing them to create apps and programs in any way they see fit.

Snider said TransLink hasn't set a date for when the open-source data will be released to the public. Meanwhile, new features and options will continue to be added to Next Bus as public feedback starts trickling in.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Women's soccer

B.C. ponies up $2M for FIFA event

The B.C. government is putting up $2 million in a bid to attract the 2015 FIFA Women's World Cup Canada event to the province.

Community and Sport Minister Ida Chong says the aim is to help Vancouver land the soccer tourney.

Vancouver is competing for the event along with five other cities — Edmonton, Montreal, Moncton, N.B., Ottawa and Winnipeg.

Chong says Vancouver will get the money if the city's bid is successful.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Report

Safety rules eyed for train wheels

The Transportation Safety Board wants safety guidelines for train wheels brought into line with industry standards after a coal train derailed near Fort Fraser in Central B.C. last year.

An investigation found the accident was caused by a faulty wheel.

The TSB report says the wheel wouldn't have passed inspection under Association of American Railroads standards but would have passed under Transport Canada rules.

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Wanted

Suspected snatcher sought

Vancouver police are looking for a man suspected of stealing a $15,000 diamond engagement ring.

Michael James Peters, 30, of Surrey is wanted for one count of theft over $5,000.

Police say the victim posted an ad on Craigslist and Kijiji selling a ladies' 1.05-carat diamond solitaire platinum ring late 2011. The suspect contacted the seller in mid-January.

VPD Const. Lindsey Houghton said the seller and the suspect met at a coffee shop and when the victim's attention was diverted, the suspect ran off with the ring.

The suspect had given the victim a fake name, which made it hard to identify him sooner.

Houghton said Peters is known to police, with a history of property crime and violence.

Police urged people to be more careful when buying or selling items on sites like Craigslist.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Grim anniversary

Family to hold vigil for victim

The family of Devon Allaire-Bell, a Surrey teen stabbed to death a year ago, will be holding a holding a vigil Wednesday night to mark the anniversary.

The 19-year-old was killed after being stabbed on the grounds of Frank Hurt Secondary last April. His friend was also stabbed, but survived.

The vigil will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Frank Hurt Secondary School, 13940-77 Ave.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Nightclub punch

Mountie in fracas gets a break

A Kelowna Mountie found guilty of assault will not end up with a criminal record.

A judge has given Const. Christopher Brinnen an absolute discharge for punching Kyle Nelson in the face outside a Kelowna nightclub in February 2010.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Petition battles animal suffering

Killer cosmetics.
About 1,700 people in the Lower Mainland sign up to rein in rogue laboratories

Medical research is one thing, but animals suffering in labs for beauty products should be a thing of the past.

That's the mantra of a new campaign slowly gaining steam both globally and on the streets of Vancouver.

In the past week, Lower Mainland LUSH Cosmetics stores have collected more than 1,700 signatures on a petition.

It asks the federal government to ban cosmetics testing on animals in Canada, as well as the sale of cosmetics tested on animals elsewhere in the world.

Their efforts are part of a larger Humane Society International petition with more than 170,000 signatures so far calling on the governments of 48 countries to do the same.

Supporters of the petition sign LUSH's Robson store windows Tuesday.
KATE WEBB/METRO

"There's always some new synthetic out there, but if we don't know it, we might not need it in our life," said Robson store manager Kelly Davidson, while collecting signatures Tuesday to mark the UN's World Day for Animals in Laboratories.

KATE WEBB/METRO

The Pickton inquiry

Police downplayed warnings?

Former senior Vancouver police officers told the inquiry looking into Robert Pickton's murders that they didn't believe more warnings about disappearing sex-trade workers would have been productive.

Former Sgt. Geramy Field, who was in charge of the missing-persons unit, says all women working in the Downtown Eastside were considered vulnerable but the force had "nothing specific" to warn them about in 1998.

Field's senior officers — former Insp. Fred Biddlecombe and acting Insp. Dan Dureau — both agreed the community was aware women were missing.

All three were quizzed by an inquiry lawyer about why a draft press release didn't go out that said police were investigating reports of dozens of missing women.

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Inevitable breakup?

Charest among those surprised by Ignatieff's musing

There are some surprised reactions to remarks from ex-Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff, who suggested in a BBC interview that Quebec and Canada are almost two separate countries floating towards a breakup.

That suggestion was met with resistance Tuesday from federalist Quebecers. "What I will tell you is a strong majority of Quebecers believe in Canada," said Quebec Premier Jean Charest.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crime

Feds to hike victim surcharge

The federal government plans to double the victim surcharge levied against criminals. The surcharge goes to help victims.

Justice Minister Rob Nicholson says he will bring in legislation to set the surcharge at 30 per cent of any fine levied. There will be no exceptions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Appeal

Wife killer can collect on life insurance: Court

A man who killed his wife should be allowed to collect on her life-insurance policy because he was insane at the time, Ontario's top court ruled Tuesday.

In overturning a lower judge's decision, the Ontario Court of Appeal decided that public policy, which normally would bar killers from benefiting from their victims' deaths, does not apply in this case.

However, the court put its decision on hold to allow the government to try to seize the money.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Myanmar

Sanctions yanked

Canada has suspended most of its sanctions against Myanmar in recognition of the country's moves towards democracy, with former political prisoner Aung Sang Suu Kyi winning a parliamentary seat in historic elections there earlier this month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ex-Liberal staffer tells MPs he acted alone in Toews leak

Ethics committee. 'Everything I posted was from publicly available documents,' former Liberal aide tells Commons committee

A Liberal party employee who was fired after posting a cabinet minister's divorce details online says he acted alone.

Adam Carroll told the House of Commons ethics committee he set up the Twitter account Vikileaks in direct response to the introduction of online-surveillance legislation.

"I was never ordered nor asked to do it," he told MPs.

"I never discussed my actions with any members of Parliament, including the interim leader of the Liberal party. I acted on my own."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lawyer Paul Champ speaks with Vikileaks creator Adam Carroll as he waits to appear before the Commons ethics committee. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Just put it on our tab

Oda not the biggest spender

Bev Oda may be in hot water for her champagne tastes, but by no means is she the highest-spending member of Stephen Harper's cabinet.

That distinction goes to Gerry Ritz.

The agriculture minister has racked up the biggest travel and hospitality tab of any of his Conservative colleagues in recent years.

That's apparently because of trade missions that have taken him all over the globe.

It has cost $271,489 since March 2010 to send Ritz to such far-flung destinations as Italy, Turkey, Indonesia and Japan.

He edged out Finance Minister Jim Flaherty to claim the top spot.

Travel and hospitality costs for Flaherty came to $270,119.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay came in third with expenses of $265,286.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Summit. Nobel laureates meet to discuss peace

Poverty, a lack of education and arms proliferation present daunting obstacles, yet peace can be achieved if world leaders are more willing to talk and young people are encouraged to get involved, Nobel Peace Prize winners said at their annual meeting.

Former U.S. president Jimmy Carter and ex-presidents Mikhail Gorbachev, of the former Soviet Union, and Lech Walesa, of Poland, were among the Peace Prize winners in Chicago for the start of the three-day World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates.

The summit runs through Wednesday and comes just weeks before Chicago hosts U.S. President Barack Obama — himself a Nobel Peace Prize winner — and foreign leaders for the NATO summit, a meeting that is expected to draw large numbers of anti-war protesters. Obama did not attend Monday's meetings.

Actor Sean Penn on Wednesday will be presented with the 2012 Peace Summit Award for his work in Haiti.

Carter said that, as the last global superpower, the U.S. has a responsibility to be a leader in peace efforts and set an example to the rest of the world. Instead, he said, the U.S. is "too inclined to go to war" and is contemplating going to war again, "perhaps in Iran."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Europe

Headscarf laws dangerous: Report

European laws governing what girls and women wear on their heads are encouraging discrimination against Muslims and against a religion that has been part of Europe's fabric for centuries, Amnesty International says in a new report. Extremist political movements targeting Muslim practices for criticism have grown in several European countries — as witnessed by French far-right leader Marine Le Pen's strong showing in presidential elections this week.

The Amnesty report lists a raft of examples of discrimination against Muslims from Spain to the Netherlands and Turkey. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Witnesses recall horror of Norway bombing

Confessed mass killer Anders Behring Breivik confers with his lawyer in the courtroom in Oslo on Tuesday. LISE ASERUD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trial. Police and forensic experts take stand in Breivik trial

After testifying for five days, Anders Behring Breivik listened silently on Tuesday as others described the mayhem caused by his bombing of Oslo's government district, a scene one witness described as a "war zone."

Forensic experts explained the massive injuries to four of the eight victims killed by the 950-kilogram fertilizer bomb on July 22, 2011. Breivik admits to the bombing and a subsequent shooting massacre at a Labour Party youth camp that left 69 people dead, most of them teenagers.

Chilling

"I estimated the chances of survival as less than five per cent."

Anders Behring Breivik, confessed killer

"More than 100 body parts were found in the government district," said Ole Morten Stoerseth, a police official tasked with identifying the blast victims.

Relatives of those killed sobbed and embraced during the autopsy presentations. Pictures of the victims' injuries were not shown in court but distributed to the judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers as well as the psychiatrists who are examining Breivik during the trial.

Breivik claims the attacks were "necessary" and that the victims had betrayed Norway by embracing immigration.

As he has for most of the trial, now in its seventh day, the far-right fanatic remained mostly expressionless during the hearing on Tuesday. But he smiled when a security guard, who was inside the government highrise when the bomb exploded, called Breivik's motive for the attacks "totally absurd."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Asylum seekers locked away in Hungary: UN

In this file photo, an asylum seeker talks through the bars in one of the Hungarian border detention centres. BELA SZANDELSZKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

They say they came to Hungary to escape brutality, war or the threat of being put to death in their home countries. Instead, they are serving untold months behind bars without ever being convicted of a crime.

Migrants who arrive from violence-ridden countries are spending up to a year languishing in detention centres.

In 2010, the government of Prime Minister Viktor Orban adopted a policy of locking up undocumented migrants while authorities adjudicate their asylum claims. Critics, including the writers of a UN report released Tuesday, say the policy is unusually harsh and out of step with European norms and international law.

"No other country (in Central Europe) is taking such extreme and harsh measures as Hungary does, and in no other country do we hear so many similar reports of abuse in detention," said Gottfried Koefner, UNHCR's representative for Central Europe.

Inmates at a detention centre in the eastern city of Nyirbator jammed up against the metal bars covering the windows at the sight of reporters below.

"I come here for asylum, not prison!" shouted one skull-capped inmate from the second floor. Another lifted up his shirt to display a wound in his chest. "No medicine! No go to hospital!" he shouted. Other prisoners yelled that they have been beaten by prison guards and receive inadequate food.

Several men held up a handwritten sign spelling out a stark demand: "Freedom!"

The new report criticizes Hungary for treating legitimate asylum seekers as illegal immigrants. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Human rights

- **Countries.** Migrants come from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Somalia.
- **Numbers.** In 2011, Hungary rejected 450 claims from asylum seekers.
- **Criticism.** The government has also faced criticism for limiting press freedom, criminalizing homelessness and reducing judicial independence.

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Hey look, it's the friendly death guy

Downtown Eastside avenger. Thanatos celebrates five years of costumed community work

MATT KIELTYKA
Metro in Vancouver

Page 1, panel 1. "These streets have a lot of stories to tell." Every corner, every nook and cranny in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside has a history. Tales of tragedy, legends of love, anecdotes of apathy, chronicles of compassion. Each person has a role to play.

Panel 2. The dark silhouette of a trench coat and brimmed hat enters the frame. Only the figure's green skull — death itself — is visible. The shadowy figure ominously reaches into a sack, grabs something and slowly takes his arm out to reveal ... a sock.

"Hey, how are you doing?" the costumed man cheerily asks. "Would you like a pair of socks? They're free!"

Enter Thanatos, the friendliest incarnation of the Grim Reaper you'll ever find, Vancouver's very own real-life charitable superhero.

This is his story. For the last five years, Thanatos — a 63-year-old professional, husband and father in his "real" life — has been strolling through the Downtown Eastside, handing out clothing, blankets, food and water to residents in need.

Like his comic-book heroes, his driving desire to dress up and patrol the area is driven by an overwhelming desire to make the world a better place, right wrongs and lend a helping hand to his community.

"I don't come from Krypton and wasn't bitten by a radioactive spider or anything like that," Thanatos, named after the Greek god of death, says of his origin story.

"I was working downtown, trying to help out on the streets, and noticing a lot of things happening … people living and dying on the streets.

"I was told by a police officer that some people on the street had nothing better to look forward to than death. That really stung, that really hurt me," he said, a slightly high-pitched voice barely muffled through the fabric hood. "So I said, 'If that's the case, then death better get out there and start taking care of these people.' I developed this persona to go out there and help."

He's been going strong ever since, garnering international media attention while using his unique — some say crazy — approach to giving back to shine a light on the poverty and social issues afflicting one of Canada's most infamous and misunderstood neighbourhoods.

His biggest claim to fame was a starring role in the 2011 HBO documentary Superheroes, which profiled some of the 400 Real-Life Superheroes operating throughout North America.

If local residents don't notice Thanatos from his adventures in the area, they've seen him on TV.

In fact, two fans had one such encounter on the hero's recent stroll through the DTES with Metro.

"You're awesome," said a stranger with long, ratty hair and a teardrop tattoo under his eye. "Keep up the good work."

A quick fist bump and Thanatos was back at delivering socks into the hands of people cowering under archways, door portals and bridge underpasses on a typical rainy day.

Onlookers laugh, passing motorists slow down for a look and camera phones are whipped out when Thanatos is near.

He's a draw, but it's not about him.

"It gets the attention where it's needed," the masked avenger says. "By using this persona, I've been able to spread the word about what's going on down there; I've been able to get more aid in the area. I'm asked by reporters if it actually works, and it's like, 'Well, you're here talking to me right now,' so it's obviously working."

And like any of his fictional heroes, Thanatos' work is never done.

"I'm an average person that just wants to do something and make a difference. People want to know what Real-Life Superheroes are all about," he says. "Apathy is the biggest killer out there. That's what we do: We fight apathy. We get people involved and we inspire them."

Final panel. The shadowy figure fearlessly runs toward his next adventure. To be continued.

Residents' reaction

Writer Nadia Fezzani visits the Downtown Eastside to find out what people think of Thanatos.

- Once on Hastings, I walked along a couple of blocks where there were lots of people. Some were selling drugs; others appeared to be selling stolen goods. I asked if they knew who the man who represented death was. Although some of them didn't know his name, many people knew but did not want to talk about him.
- One of the few who would speak about him was selling goods from a blanket spread out on the sidewalk. I asked her if she knew the superhero. "Yes," she said nervously. Watching her surroundings, she told me Thanatos was a very nice man but that she didn't really know much about him. As I was leaving, a few men approached me to tell me how amazing a man he is.

Vancouver Real-Life Superhero Thanatos. PETER TA

60 seconds

An interview with Thanatos Necrium

Why did you choose Thanatos, or death, as your superhero character?
I've been doing this for a little more than four years. I've always been someone to get involved. I worked on my own down on Hastings Street and with small groups, trying to help out with the homeless with handouts and counselling and to point them in the right direction. It was very difficult, and I couldn't get anyone's attention. Nobody wanted to listen. One day, a police officer told me, "You know, people on the street really have nothing better to look forward to other than death." And that really stunned me. So I said, "If that is the case, then death is going to have to get out there and start taking care of these people!"

Does the mask have an impact on people?
I am drawing attention. Social workers see these people in the morning, and people don't remember them by the afternoon. Me, they remember. They remember the crazy guy with a mask out there helping and that's all I care about. I've had people from France, from Germany, from all over the States come to talk to me because I put on a mask and I'm drawing attention to a problem. Nobody wants to talk to me, Joe Blow. But they'll listen to Thanatos. There are people who say this is an ego trip. If this were an ego trip, would I hide behind the mask?

As a Real-Life Superhero, what do you do, exactly?
I'm an extra set of eyes and ears for the police. I help the homeless on the street with handouts of blankets, food, simple things like a loaf of bread, sometimes something as simple as human touch and companionship. I keep an eye on them and I draw attention to the plight of people who fall through the system and end up on the streets. In my city alone I've probably reached out and touched 600 people.

NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO

TO READ THE FULL INTERVIEW, VISIT METRONEWS.CA/FEATURES

In Metro Thursday

- **Super villains vs. superheroes:** Who are super villains and what role do they play?

More at metronews.ca

- **Video: Real-Life Superhero Thanatos tells his story.** Metro Vancouver reporters followed Thanatos on a rainy afternoon as he patrolled the gritty streets of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.
- **Slideshow: The women among the Real-Life Superheroes.**

ANGEN/FOR METRO

Putting the 'her' in superheroes

Currently, there are about 15 female Real-Life Superheroes in North America. Most of them work with a team or as one half of a couple, but some of them also act on their own

Red Light. Street patrol

Red Light NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO

Red Light was only 15 years old when she decided to make a difference by volunteering at an elder-care facility. At 17, she was doing homeless outreach. Six months ago, she started to patrol almost every night, sometimes 12 hours at a time. Today, she still patrols 15 to 20 hours a week.

Working alone, she has to be careful with her actions. For example, she helps people by talking down a dispute or finding rides for those who are too drunk to drive. When the situation is too risky, she serves as an extra set of eyes and ears, and calls authorities when she witnesses suspicious activities or mistreatment of animals.

She decided to start working toward her EMT certification after trying to rescue a man suffering from a heroin overdose. "Many of my other skills were picked up through experience. I learned how to fight by necessity. I learned vigilance by being different. I learned to stay calm in a crisis by conditioning," explains Red.

Growing up, she was subject to sexual abuse and domestic violence. She was also diagnosed with a malignant tumour in her stomach at 28 years old. It took her five years to get the necessary funds to go through her operation. She has become aware of her own mortality. "I feel like I've already been given extra time, so I'm not afraid of dying. Every day is another chance to make things better."

Now, with her red hair past her knees, she plans on donating it to Locks of Love, a non-profit organization that takes human-hair donations and creates wigs for young chemotherapy patients.

"Life is only as bad as you let it be. It's easy to forget how much we have when it feels like we have to fight so hard to keep it. It hasn't stopped me from being kind to people. I still patrol. I still help others. Anyone can do something. Anyone." **NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO**

Purple Reign. Night crime

Purple Reign RYAN MCNAMEE/FOR METRO

For more than a year, Purple Reign was abused by her boyfriend — physically, emotionally and mentally. One night, when she was given permission to go out with friends — which didn't happen very often — Reign returned home to find her boyfriend angry and belligerent.

He attacked her.

"I told him I was going to call the police. I tried to escape and he kept coming after me," she says.

She threw open the door, yelling, hoping someone in the condo complex would hear her. No one came to her aid.

"He was choking me and banging my head against the floor. I started to lose consciousness and I couldn't breathe. I just gave up because I felt so low to begin with. I was finished fighting."

Finally spent, her boyfriend stopped hitting her. With the help of a domestic-violence lawyer, she kicked her boyfriend out and moved right away so her ex couldn't find her.

Within in a year, she met with Real Life Superhero Phoenix Jones and engaged in a healthy and loving relationship with him. She patrols with the Rain City Superheroes, a group of heroes from Seattle who fight crime at night.

She has since founded the non-profit Purple Reign Campaign — purplereigncampaign.org — through which she raises funds for the Northwest Family Life non-profit organization. They help victims of domestic abuse by proving them with education and assistance.

NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO

Women heroes

LORI FUSARO/FOR METRO

1 The Handler. Los Angeles
The owner of a dog-training school searches for strays animals and finds them new homes.

2 KatWoman. Cleveland
With the Underground Justice League Alliance, KatWoman engages in crime prevention and homeless outreach and helps locate missing people. A registered nurse, she also provides first aid to the injured.

3 Rock N. Roll. San Francisco
Rock N. Roll donates and distributes food and clothing to the less fortunate. She collects syringes in a public area frequented by intravenous drug users. She is the co-founder of the California Initiative and the S.T.A.N.D. news site.

4 Misery White. Minneapolis
Misery White champions anti-bullying, domestic-violence and child-abuse education and prevention programs. She also advocates for shelters, food banks and homeless outreach.

5 Crimson Catalyst. Chicago
Crimson Catalyst, a model and stage performer, patrols the streets and distributes food and supplies to the homeless. All of the meals are prepared by her.

NADIA FEZZANI/FOR METRO

Online filing cabinet.
Google unveils digital content storage service

Google is hoping to build the world's largest digital filing cabinet in the latest attempt to deepen people's dependence on its services.

The Internet search leader's new product stores personal documents, photos, videos and a wide range of other digital content on Google's computers. Keeping their files in massive data centres, users will be able to call up the information on their smartphones, tablet computers, laptops and just about any other Internet-connected device. Google Inc. announced the long-rumoured service on Tuesday. Called Google Drive, the service is offering the first five gigabytes of storage per account for free. Additional storage will be sold for prices starting at $2.49 US per month for 25 gigabytes up to $49.99 US per month for one terabyte.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Competitor

While San Francisco startup Dropbox Inc. has emerged as the early favourite among consumers, another startup called Box Inc. has carved a niche offering online storage for businesses.

- Box has raised $162 million US in venture capital and boasts about 120,000 companies as clients.

Market Minute

DOLLAR 101.21¢ (+0.30¢)

TSX 11,980.1 (-8.85)

OIL $103.55 US (+44¢)

GOLD $1,634.80 US (+$11.20)

Natural gas: $1.975 (-3.2¢)
Dow Jones: 13,001.56 (+74.39)

Tycoons announce cosmic mining venture

10-year plan.
Filmmaker James Cameron, Silicon Valley titans look to space to extract minerals

Space-faring robots could be extracting gold and platinum from asteroids within 10 years if a new venture backed by two Silicon Valley titans and filmmaker James Cameron goes as planned.

Outside experts are skeptical about the project, announced at a news conference in Seattle on Tuesday, which would likely require untold millions, or perhaps billions of dollars and huge advances in technology. But the same entrepreneurs pioneered the selling of space rides to tourists — a notion that also seemed fanciful not long ago.

Planetary Resources mechanical engineer Peter Illsley puts finishing touches on a prototype model of a low-orbit spacecraft Tuesday in Seattle, with the plan to mine nearby asteroids such as the near-Earth asteroid Eros, inset.

ELAINE THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beginning the process

"It's the stuff of science fiction, but like so many other areas of science fiction, it's possible ... making them reality."

Thomas Jones, former astronaut

"Since my early teenage years, I've wanted to be an asteroid miner. I always viewed it as a glamorous vision of where we could go," Peter Diamandis, one of the founders of Planetary Resources, said at a news conference at the Museum of Flight in Seattle. The company's vision "is to make the resources of space available to humanity."

The inaugural step, to be achieved in the next 18 to 24 months, would be launching the first in a series of private telescopes that would search for the right type of asteroids.

The plan is to use commercially built robotic ships to squeeze rocket fuel and valuable minerals out of the rocks that routinely whiz by Earth. One of the company founders predicts they could have their version of a space-based gas station up and running by 2020.

Several scientists not involved in the project said they were simultaneously thrilled and wary, calling the plan daring, difficult — and very pricey. They don't see how it could be cost-effective, even with platinum and gold worth nearly $1,600 US an ounce.

An upcoming NASA mission to return just two ounces (60 grams) of an asteroid to Earth will cost about $1 billion US.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retail

Canada-U.S. price gap scrutinized

Canada's retailers are blaming suppliers for the large gap between their prices and identical goods for sale south of the border, despite the nearly equal value of the two currencies.

Canadian merchants are being unfairly singled out for having higher prices than their American counterparts, Diane Brisebois of the Retail Council of Canada told a Senate committee on Tuesday.

She said because Canada's population is so small in comparison, large multinational vendors can enforce a special Canadian price for brand-name products and it can be anywhere from 10 to 50 per cent higher than in the United States.

"There are price differences between Canada and the U.S., but they are not always determined at the retail level," Brisebois told the committee.

Brisebois said Canadian retailers have no choice but to buy from the Canadian distributors of American manufacturers because they are restricted from buying in the U.S.

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BACK WHEN SPAM WAS SOMETHING YOU DIGESTED, NOT DELETED

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

Did you know there's an Internet Hall of Fame?

Well, there is, and the first inductees were announced on Monday— 33 in total, 30 men and three women. One of the women was known as Jake and another was named Mitchell. So far, Geek Valhalla is a man's world.

Oct. 29, 1969, 22:30 hours. That's when the first message was sent on ARPANET, the Internet's immediate predecessor. It was from the Nigerian foreign minister, offering the recipient $20 million in exchange for his bank-account number (LOL).

What did we do before?

It's hard to believe that the Internet is over 40, especially because the only people who really know how to use it are 14.

The Nigerian foreign minister is not among the inductees, but you'll be pleased to know that Al Gore is. Al, the 45th vice-president of the United States and the poster boy for climate change, is also famous for allegedly claiming to have invented the Internet, a universally ridiculed contention. Yet, there he is, one of the kids in the hall. Not for inventing the Internet per se, but coming pretty close: hailed as a "Global Connector" and helping to invent "the information superhighway," along which many a frustrated computer illiterate has become electronic roadkill.

The truth is there's not exactly one inventor of the Internet, because a bunch of old white guys flipped the switches. But the honour for the vision could go to J.C.R. Licklider of MIT, who released a paper in August 1962 on a "Galactic Network," a globally interconnected set of computers through which everyone could quickly access data and programs from any site. It was called Amazon (LOL, again).

Oddly, Jeff Bezos, the man who actually invented Amazon, isn't on the list — at least not yet — while Craig Newmark is. Newmark, of course, invented Craigslist, without which there would be no roommates or used-car sales, so I guess he's more important.

It's hard to believe that the Internet is over 40, especially because the only people who really know how to use it are 14. We've come a long way from a time when pioneers such as Vint Cerf and Tim Berners-Lee (both inductees) envisioned a global electronic village to a day when people can pump out brainless, 140-character declarations about nothing 24-7.

I mean, where would we be without Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest and Netflix? Back in the cave with Don Draper ordering three-martini, smartphone-free lunches? The first email message went out in 1972, and it went straight to my junk-mail folder along with the Viagra ads.

Imagine what it was like before that, a time before your pocket buzzed every 30 seconds and when you missed an episode of Game of Thrones you could only wait until next summer for the reruns.

Hard to imagine. Check it out: internethalloffame.org.

As we can see, the Internet has helped us to make huge technological advances. KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

Rubber hen in space? She's no chicken!

NASA /REX FEATURES

Guinea pig

Rubber chicken flies into storm

SPACE. A plucky rubber chicken has been sent into space to study a solar storm. "Camilla" has boldly gone where no chicken has gone before, after being attached to a helium balloon and sent to an altitude of 36 kilometres.

The hen was used to test levels of radiation in one of the strongest proton storms since 2003. **METRO**

Bird in space

One powerful rubber mascot

SCIENCE PROJECT. The stunt was carried out by Bishop Union High School students in California, as part of their science project last month.

Many space enthusiasts will be familiar with Camilla, who is the mascot of NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory, and has more than 20,000 followers on social-media websites.

METRO

Camilla's helium balloon pops.
EARTH TO SKY/BISHOP CA

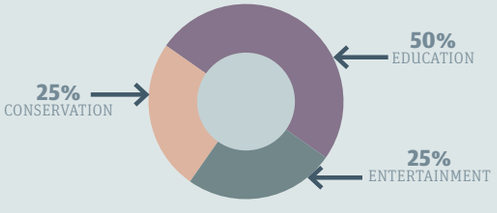
Camilla's flight

- **Scientific study.** In her two-and-a-half-hour flight, Camilla spent about 90 minutes in the stratosphere, where temperatures and air pressures are similar to those on Mars. On her specially knitted space suit, she wore a pair of radiation badges — the same kind donned by medical technicians and nuclear workers to assess their dosages.

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

What's the main purpose of a zoo?



Twitter

@FarhanLaljiTSN: #Luongo would be willing to waive his NTC if asked. Doesn't want to stand in the way if team decides to go with Cory. #canucks

@VanCanucks: "We have a young goaltender in Schneider who could dominate the league." - Luongo

@VanCanucks: Luongo - "At the end of the day, it's going to be about what's best for this team."

@mattsekeres: Malone makes sense if a Luongo to TB deal. Taking $ and term back (3 yrs; $8M). Canucks want big PFs. @Ddollar1 @PaulC14 @dforbes91

@seneCAK: I can't wait for Luongo to make his first save in a Leafs uniform and watch the reaction of every Leafs fan. OMG WE'RE WINNING THE CUP

metro

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2
SCENE

Scene in brief

Seacrest staying on with Idol

Ryan Seacrest is sticking around as host of American Idol. The Fox network said Monday night that Seacrest will continue as host of the hit TV singing-competition series, over which he has presided since its premiere a decade ago. The network gave no specifics about the length of his new contract, or any monetary details. Seacrest called the show's run until now "a wild ride," and said he is excited it will continue with him on board.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Zac Efron brings The Lucky One to London for European premiere

Jason Statham doesn't stray far from his wheelhouse in his new movie, Safe. HANDOUT

Statham's safety zone: Guns, girls and hard glares

If it ain't broke... It may have all been done before by the action star, but his new film is likely to be a Safe bet at the box office

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Movie tough-guy Jason Statham is either remarkably consistent or just really enjoys playing guys who can break your neck with his steely gaze. Whatever the case, when you pay your money for a Statham flick, you know in advance what you're getting into.

In this weekend's Safe, the gravelly-voiced action hero digs deep into his bag of tricks to play Luke Wright, a.k.a. Statham Character #2. That's the "loner with a past who must protect a youthful innocent." (As opposed to Statham Character #1 in which he plays "a loner with a past who must protect a loved one.")

Like his other movies, Safe is a marketers dream. Here's a sample ad:

Body Count: 350

Bullet Budget: $1,000,000

Jason Statham's Steely Glare: Priceless

Recently a scientific poll — OK, I posted a question on Facebook — posed this question: What makes Statham movies so popular? Here are some of the comments:

Jason Statham

His über-macho presence is more important than the script — as long as he is in motion, running and leaping, kicking and punching, his films work.

- His Blue Steel stare puts Zoolander to shame!
- His complete lack of facial movement? It's like if Buster Keaton were an emotionless British killing machine.
- He always manages to kick someone's butt while being tied to a chair.
- Not since Don Johnson, circa Miami Vice, has an actor managed to maintain a perfect three-day stubble...

Let's face it, his movies are more than a bit predictable. "You gotta be kidding me!" you'll be tempted to groan at some of the plot twists — if only the movie's characters didn't beat you to it.

They are cliché-a-thons, but because Statham understands his audience and persona, his films are dumb good fun. His über-macho presence is more important than the script. As long as he is in motion, running and leaping, kicking and punching, and giving voice to action-movie platitudes in his distinctive English rasp, his pictures work.

Statham has made films like Transporter, Killer Elite and The Mechanic over and over again. Different title, and sometimes with a big- name supporting cast (like Robert De Niro and Clive Owen) and sometimes not (Safe co-stars newcomer Catherine Chan), but the story of a tough guy who lives in a world where "Everybody knows the rules — there are no rules," is the common thread.

Statham, however, says he's open to showing audiences another side of his personality.

When a Huffington Post writer asked if he would make a rom-com with Reese Witherspoon he said, "Of course, I would love to do that. But my phone is right there and it ain't f—ing ringing."

BLAH HURT NUMB ANGRY ANXIOUS DOWN NOT myself TODAY

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Katy Perry ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Katy spotted cuddling with Florence and the Machine guitarist

It looks like Katy Perry is moving on after her divorce from Russell Brand.

The pop singer was spotted at the Coachella music festival holding hands, cuddling and generally acting like a couple with Florence and the Machine guitarist Robert Ackroyd, according to Hollyscoop.

Of course, Perry has also recently been linked to French singer and model Baptiste Giabiconi, with his rep going so far as to confirm their getting to know each other.

Twitter

@jimmykimmel
I had the pleasure of working with Dick Clark many times — great guy. Some trivia: did you know he HATED music?

@katyperry
When is the Sublime hologram coming to coachella?! #805

@NiaVardalos
Just back from Disneyland, sunblock wore off, my shnozz has been replaced by an eggplant.

@AlbertBrooks
I wonder if the U.S. purposely sends out crappy drones so when they're captured China & Iran get bad info?

The Word

Celebrity fetus round-up

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

It's a slow gossip day, so let's check in with everyone's favourite subject: The uteri of the stars!

First up: Jessica Simpson, who, it should be noted, is still pregnant. (At this point, does anyone else feel like Simpson is going to be in the Guinness Book of World Records for "mammal with the longest gestation period," right next to "elephant"?)

"I just woke up from a dream that I wore a leopard caftan in the hospital. Fabulous!!" Simpson tweeted Tuesday. "Now I need to find one!"

Even the Fashion Star mentor knows this is a seemingly never-ending pregnancy: "To everyone who keeps congratulating me on the birth of my baby girl ... I'm still pregnant!!" Simpson tweeted Saturday. "Don't believe what you read, ladies and gents."

Meanwhile, Life & Style is reporting that Drew Barrymore, who has yet to confirm her pregnancy, is, like Simpson, having a girl. A source close to Drew "exclusively revealed" the sex of the child to Life & Style.

I'd take this news with a grain of salt, folks, as no "close" friend would sell out such sacred information to a tabloid. That being said, there's a 50/50 chance that this made-up information is correct. Good job of hedging your bets, Life & Style!

And, just in case you missed it: Giuliana and Bill Rancic, whose struggles with infertility are well documented, announced Monday on Today that they are going to have a baby via a gestational carrier.

"She is giving us the greatest gift we're ever getting in our lives," Giuliana, 37, tells People of the woman whose identity has not been revealed. "She's so selflessly helping make our dream a reality. We adore her."

Let's just hope this carrier isn't on the Jessica Simpson timeline of giving birth.

Jason Segel

Segel skips the red carpet to hang with his new girl at movie premiere

Jason Segel went to great lengths to avoid the cameras and still catch the premiere of girlfriend Michelle Williams' new movie, Take This Waltz, at the Tribeca Film Festival.

The 5-Year Engagement star dodged the red carpet to "sneak through the back entrance to be there with Michelle," a source says, according to Hollyscoop. Of course, there was no such sneaking around when it came to the after-party, where the pair reportedly packed on the public displays of affection.

"There was no mistaking that they were a couple," says a source. "They seemed very comfortable and happy to be there celebrating together."

Drew Barrymore

Baby on board: Drew celebrates pregnancy

Drew Barrymore and fiancé Will Kopelman have plenty to celebrate, what with both a wedding and a baby reportedly on the way, so this weekend was the perfect time for a shower.

"Everyone was doting on pregnant Drew and asking her how she is feeling," a source tells Us Weekly of the party, held at producer Leonard Goldberg's home.

"She is so thrilled to be expecting, and also really excited about the wedding."

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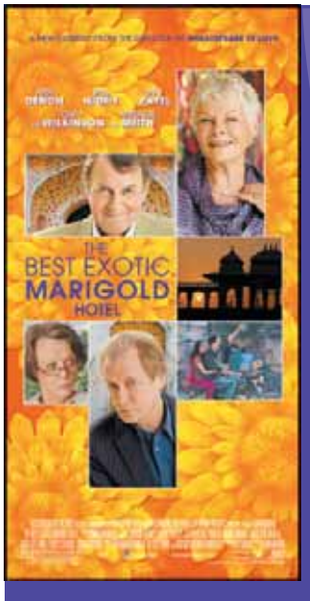

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3 LIFE

Travel in brief

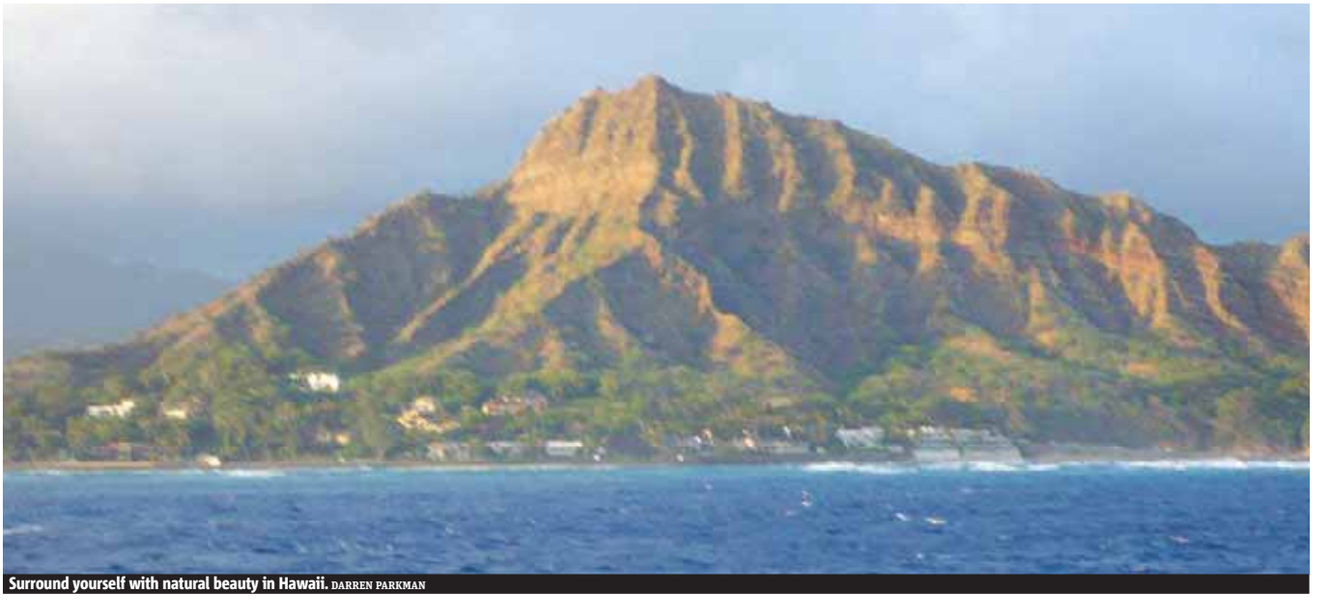
Where to get the world's best sandwich

Grill some salami and baloney. Add Swiss or cheddar cheese. Slather on mustard. Put between yellow bread. What do you get? According to Travel and Leisure magazine, one of the world's best sandwiches. It's the Wilensky's Special, served at Wilensky's Light Lunch at the corner of Fairmont and Clark streets in Montreal's Mile End area. The diner was made famous by Mordecai Richler in his novel The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz and has an ambience that, according to Frommer's, "can best be described as Early Jewish Immigrant."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

Don't stay home because you lack a companion: Tips for travelling solo.



Surround yourself with natural beauty in Hawaii. DARREN PARKMAN

Oahu's underwater views something to see

Submarine fun. The Travellin' Canadian overcomes his fear of small spaces for a deep-sea adventure

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN
Darren Parkman
travel@metronews.ca

Pineapples and hula dancers are one thing, but deep-sea diving in a real submarine is quite another.

Despite my gripping fear of confined spaces, I found myself signing up for an undersea submarine adventure aboard the world's largest high-tech passenger sub — the Atlantis — during a recent respite to sunny Oahu. Claim to fame aside, the Atlantis seemed downright tiny as I climbed down the narrow staircase to take my place inside this cramped metal tomb. Thankfully, it was fully air-conditioned, but still I was sweating profusely as we sunk lower and lower down into the depths.

But the sights soon made me forget about my cowardice. The trip is well worth its cost of $100. The undersea scenery is nothing short of spectacular, with an abundance of intricate reefs surrounded by fascinating sea critters. Gazing through my tiny seaport, I even spied a rather large and menacing reef shark swimming towards us.

That's around the time my fear of confined spaces was replaced with my other crushing phobia — sharks. Luckily, even sharks can't bite through submarines, so all was well.

After floating by an authentic shipwreck and amazing artificial reefs, I felt like it was plenty of adventure for the price as we made our way back to the surface. Then it was time to partake in what has become a very trendy pastime in Hawaii these days — something called paddle-boarding. For days, I'd seen people everywhere standing on surfboards with long paddles, riding waves and having fun. It appeared to be fairly easy. Turns out it really isn't.

Who knew you needed actual balancing skills to tackle this fun sport? So with gorgeous Diamond Head as a backdrop and paddle in hand, I hopped on my board and promptly fell in the ocean, all in one motion.

The Pearl Harbor Memorial. ISTOCK

Repeated attempts produced the same results.

After 19 or so tries, I actually was able to balance on the wobbly board and paddle around for a bit. Turns out this paddle-boarding thing is actually quite a workout. I found just falling and climbing back onto the board multiple times was exhausting.

But that's OK — it's all part of fun on the water in Honolulu. Aloha, baby!

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Welcome to the wonderful world of the Disney Fantasy

Family-friendly cruising. New Disney ship isn't just for kids — with a spa and fine dining, parents are also in for a good time

AURÉLIE RESCH
life@metronews.ca

"Aaaaah!" is all I hear before I get splashed by a father and his son dropping down from a huge water slide. Clearly there's no shortage of screams and laughter aboard the new Disney cruise ship, Disney Fantasy. From "All aboard!" to "Are you ready?", your cruise will be action-packed, with plenty of activities and shows.

Action

Families and water-lovers will have a blast on decks 11 and 12 with water coasters, water sprouts, water games, two pools for children and one for adults. Get your thrills on the huge aerial slide. The AquaDuck is a one of kind — a 765-foot-long water coaster that spans four decks in height. A powerful stream of water propels guests on a little inflatable boat downhill, uphill and in various loops. Or if you feel like immersing yourself, have fun with the little ones in the shallow and warm Mickey Mouse pool. If you feel more like getting in a few laps, move to the Donald Duck pool where you'll be swimming pretty briskly to brave the cool waters. You might want to opt for the hot tub facing the ocean after that.

Rested yet? Be ready after a hearty meal and an evening of entertainment with live Disney productions on stage, and activities, fireworks and a dance party through the night on deck 11.

Indulgence

Now, if your idea of a cruise is quiet, indulgence and refinement, be Disney Fantasy's guest. If you came as a family, drop your children at Disney's Oceaneer Club, where they will have a blast playing with other children and taking part in the hundreds of activities that are offered.

Once the kids are looked after, head to the Senses Spa and Salon for an ultimate pampering retreat. Enjoy an oasis of calm and let the rainforest saunas and water therapies relax your mind and muscles. Soak in a jacuzzi on a private veranda facing the sea while waiting for your treatment. You can choose from a variety of signature massages and treatments that will surely erase any stress and fatigue left in your body and mind. If you'd like to be active, but without any Disney characters fooling around, you can head to the gym next to the spa and exercise while admiring the ocean through the huge glass panels. You can also go for a swim in the adults-only pool and enjoy a cocktail in the sunshine with friends at the bar.

Romance and elegance is what you will find at Remy. This upscale restaurant offers fine French cuisine in a stylish Art Nouveau setting with a softly-lit ambiance for a dinner to remember. The view of the ocean through the windows is breathtaking and all in this restaurant is designed to please your senses and create an intimate vibe. Palo is another fine adult-exclusive restaurant you might want to try for a taste of northern Italian flair. Also located on deck 12, it offers the same superb panorama view of the sea and an equally elegant setting.

Bars and lounges abound on Disney Fantasy and it will be your call to choose between a quiet alcove for a chat over a coffee or a cheerful happy hour. The Tube nightclub offers partygoers the possibility to end the night shimmying on an illuminated dance floor.

A cruise for everybody

Come as a family, a couple, a group of friends or by yourself — aboard Disney's new ship, you're sure to find whatever you'd want to make your cruise memorable.

Facts and figures

The Disney Fantasy...

- **Weighs.** About 130,000 gross tons
- **Stretches.** About 340 metres in length
- **Crosses.** The width of 37 metres
- **Reaches.** A height of 66 metres
- **Carries.** A capacity of 4,000 passengers

All aboard the Disney Fantasy are guaranteed to find something to suit their tastes. PHOTOS: AURÉLIE RESCH

Kids will delight in the Disney Fantasy's on-board entertainment.

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CEO hopes visitors will 'Revel' in new Atlantic City resort

Betting on the future. There's a lot more than just blackjack and gambling at this $2.4 billion resort

BRIAN X. MCCRONE
life@metronews.ca

Atlantic City's new Revel resort offers guests the height of luxury. PHOTOS: MEL EVANS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Revel embraces the ocean, rather than turning its back on it.

When Kevin DeSanctis began his career in Atlantic City many years ago, the CEO of the gambling mecca's new $2.4 billion Revel resort and casino wasn't working for casinos — he was monitoring them as a New Jersey state trooper.

His transformation into the top official at the resort town's most expensive creation ever is about as radical a makeover as the scuffling city needs from Revel to usher in a turnaround.

Its arrival comes at a time when Pennsylvania's "convenience" casinos just took over as the second-most revenue-drawing, by state, in the country. Speculation is that Atlantic City could do itself a favour in the years ahead by bulldozing a couple of its weakest links.

(It now has 11 casinos, including Revel.)

"Casinos in Pennsylvania and New York are part of a convenience market. They've become not much different than [gamblers'] local bars," DeSanctis said of the proliferation of competition for gambling dollars. "We believe we offer a great alternative."

The alternative Revel offers is in its "leisure" approach to entertainment. Gone — forever, perhaps? — are the days where Atlantic City's resorts catered mostly to gamblers. DeSanctis said a fundamental shift at Revel will be a new emphasis on entertainment outside of the sea of slots and blackjack tables.

In a stark contrast to its chief competitor for patrons, Borgata and its sister resort, the Water Club, Revel embraces Atlantic City's greatest natural resource.

"You can't build on the beach and turn your back to the ocean," DeSanctis said. During a tour of the property with Revel's principal architect, Michael Prifti, who also oversaw construction of the Borgata nine years ago, the Atlantic Ocean is visible from almost everywhere in the resort.

The Revel Beach is still under construction, but will be ready by the official opening on the U.S. Memorial Day weekend in May. The current earth-moving along the northernmost stretch of the boardwalk includes creating a beach with small waves for waders and larger breakers for surfers, Prifti said. The ocean is as dominant upon a trip around the resort as the main gambling floor itself.

"I don't think anyone appreciates having to walk through a casino to get to your hotel room," Prifti said. "What we're trying to do is make people feel that they're going to have a good time."

It's a feeling Atlantic City needs a lot more of in the coming months and years ahead if it's going to remake itself in the era of convenience gambling.

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If you go...

Some of Revel's highlights:

- **Garces, Garces, Garces.** Philly's biggest celebrity chef, Jose Garces, has four different eateries at Revel, with options for those looking to woo a date with high-priced menus to someone on the move itching for a quick taco.
- **NYC's culinary influence.** Acclaimed chefs Alain Allegretti and Marc Forgione are also opening high-end Mediterranean and steakhouse restaurants. As you can imagine, all the eateries have panoramic views of the ocean.
- **The Social.** Like the Borgata, Revel has a massive concert venue — 5,500 seats — but also an intriguing secondary space like The Social, which seats 700 for live entertainment and can convert to provide different experiences depending on the act.
- **Sand.** Unlike most of Atlantic City's casinos, there is an emphasis on the ocean. Revel also remade thousands of feet of the boardwalk that links the resort to the beach — very little possibility of splinters.
- **Beach Club and nightclub.** HQ Nightclub and HQ Beach Club combine for more than 80,000 square feet of party space. Depending on your preference, get sweaty on the inside dance floor until the early hours or enjoy the ocean breeze on the private beachfront.

The casino is only a tiny component of Revel's attractions.

Local ingredients shine in Squash & Spinach Frittata

Butternut Squash, Spinach and Feta Frittata

This recipe serves 12. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

"Butternut squash is a great local food for all of Canada," says Toronto-based Christy Brissette, a registered dietitian and spokesperson for Dietitians of Canada. "The frittata is full of beta-carotene. It's also a way to enjoy some greens and get some vegetables in there."

It can be served with a green salad or a steamed green vegetable such as peas, beans or edamame. For a protein boost, sprinkle the salad or vegetable with toasted nuts or seeds.

1. Grease a 33-by-23-cm (13-by-9-inch) glass baking dish. Then place the squash in a microwave-safe bowl and cover with plastic wrap, leaving a corner open to vent. Microwave on high for 5 minutes or until fork-tender. Drain off excess liquid. Stir in potatoes, spinach and red onion. Spread in baking dish.

2. In a bowl, whisk the eggs, milk and pepper. Pour over the vegetables and stir to distribute. Sprinkle evenly with cheddar and feta cheeses.

3. Bake in 200 C (400 F) oven 40 mins. or until eggs are set.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/COOK! BY THE DIETITIANS OF CANADA/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR, TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

Ingredients

- 1 butternut squash (about 2 lb/1 kg), peeled and cubed (1 to 1.25 litres/4 to 5 cups)
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) peeled and cubed potatoes
- 1 pkg (300 g/10 oz) frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) thinly sliced red onion
- 8 eggs
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) 1% milk
- 1 mL (1/4 tsp) freshly ground black pepper
- 250 ml (1 cup) shredded cheddar cheese
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) crumbled feta cheese

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- 1oz SKYY vodka
- 3/4 oz cold espresso

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From working for free to finally getting hired

Intern to employee.
A guide to securing a spot by someone who managed to do it

JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU
TalentEgg.ca

Ah, the beloved and yet begrudged unpaid internship. Is there any other position that elicits more mixed feelings?

It's an incredible opportunity that gives you that competitive edge to build your career, opens doors to much-needed work experience, and puts you in touch with a whole slew of potentially critical contacts.

But no monetary compensation? Zero? Nada? Zilch? It's a bit of a tough pill to swallow because those student loans are not going to pay themselves and you do kind of need to eat.

I spent months as an intern for an international non-governmental organization and I turned that unpaid internship into a paid, previously non-existent job.

How? Let me tell you how it's done…

Work as hard as you can

Well, obviously. This should go without saying, but you've really got to treat the internship like a real job. Take ownership of any and all of the tasks that are thrown your way. For the next coming months, that internship is your baby and you'd better make sure your baby is the healthiest, most successful baby there is! (Awkward analogy, but you know what I'm trying to get at…)

Make the absolute most of your time as a temporary part of a team while interning. ISTOCK

Offer to take on extra responsibilities

Time permitting, of course. Show that you're a go-getter and willing to get your hands dirty. And don't just stick to your department, either. Network with individuals from other areas of the company and see if there's anything you can do to help.

Not only will you broaden your skill set beyond your general expertise, but you'll also broaden your exposure to different people who may be able to offer you a job in the future.

JUSTINE ABIGAIL YU IS A COMMUNICATIONS PROFESSIONAL BY DAY AND A FREELANCE WRITER BY NIGHT. TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Pick up the phone

Make a point of keeping in touch

- **So maybe there just really isn't a job available for you right now.** Still, keep in touch and check back every now and then just to say hello and touch base. Make sure you're always on their mind so if a position does open up, you'll be kept in mind.
- **But here's hoping…** By that time, you've already been scooped up by another company — because, let's face it, you're a pro!

Student Voice

Recruiters, be realistic

Seeba Alexander
Graduate, Ontario College of Art and Design, Illustration
Graduate, Centennial College Graphic Design Media
TalentEgg.ca

After school was over, applying for jobs was tough.

I applied to retail, hoping to land a design-related job in the company later on, but no postings have appeared.

While working at my retail job and being on a probation period, I applied for an unpaid internship with a company who was interested in me. However, they wanted me to commit to four days a week, but my schedule was not fixed at the other job. I told them my situation and they said that interning for two or three days instead was not possible.

I have applied to jobs on the OCAD job site and received two replies, one for a paying job and the other for an unpaid position. For internships, companies should compensate in some way. Otherwise, accept the fact that students have part-time jobs that they are committed to for financial reasons. If a student says they can only give two or three days in a week, it's not that they don't want to work more. They have no choice.

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Workplace Law

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How many mistakes does it take?

WORKPLACE LAW
Daniel Lublin
dan@canadaemploymentlawyer.com
Twitter: @danlublin

In this column, I have consistently opined that incompetence is not usually cause for dismissal and that poor performance should not affect severance. But I must admit that the law is not always this clear. What happens when a new recruit cannot perform the job he or she was hired for, despite training, patience and an investment in their performance? Unsatisfied clients have criticized the staffer and you regret giving that person the job in the first place. This human resources dilemma is not isolated — both employers and even other employees complain about it often.

The biggest difficulty is although this employee should be fired immediately, most employers allow him or her to linger, dissuaded from taking action because of the potential severance costs and the lost time and investment to find another suitable replacement. As a workplace lawyer and a business owner, I can say that mostly this just compounds the problem, since their performance is unlikely to ever satisfactorily improve. The following are some alternative options employers utilize to deal with this problem:

• Is the employee "probationary?" If so, he or she can be fired with impunity. But note that this label cannot be imposed because the employee turned out to be incompetent. Most employers fail to appreciate that, in order to create a probationary employee, the employee must agree to this stipulation in an employment contract and before he or she begins any work. Otherwise it is too late.

• Spend the time required to correct his or her performance. This option is too often overlooked. If an employee is underperforming, they most likely know it, too. It is their job to ask for assistance as much as it is the employer's job to clearly delineate what standards are required. This process involves more than a performance meeting. The employee should job-shadow a supervisor.

• Make it clear to the employee that the job will soon come to an end. The goal is to provide enough time for them to look for other work while they still have a job. If this occurs quickly, then they can gracefully resign. However, if this advice is communicated improperly, it could easily backfire into a lawsuit. The key is to get good advice yourself.

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REAPING THE REWARDS

EXPLORE THE GROWING WORLD OF INCENTIVES WITH REWARDS CANADA

GEORGE DOYLE/STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

If you are uncertain where to look for travel deals in a marketplace that is fast becoming a social media maze, Rewards Canada can help you map out a shortcut to savings. The easy-to-navigate website has a surplus of information on building rewards points for travel, whether it be earning frequent flyer miles with a specific airline or saving on the best hotels.

Rewards Canada has you covered with the most efficient ways to effortlessly maximize your travel savings.

Initially launched in September 2001, Rewards Canada provides easy access to articles, charts and information on all the current programs available. By simply visiting the website, consumers are able to pinpoint the most up-to-date offers. These incentives are quickly gaining momentum with Canadians in the know and there is a plethora of reasons to keep up with Rewards Canada.

According to Patrick Sojka, CEO and founder, many consumers are becoming knowledgeable in regards to the best ways to utilize rewards.

"The programs themselves are doing a good job of promoting the benefits of loyalty programs and consumers are getting very savvy by taking the time to learn all the ins and outs to make sure they maximize their experience in the world of earning the miles/points," he says.

Some of the most popular programs are Aeroplan and Air Miles, but Sojka says that newer programs are also rising through the ranks. For instance, WestJet Rewards have been gaining momentum over the last six months as it has broadened its focus to include the leisure traveller as well as the business traveller.

Rewards Canada currently focuses exclusively on travel rewards, but over the next year it will also be exploring further loyalty offers such as cash back credit cards. For those who may be uncertain how to get started, Sojka says all the information is just a mouse click away.

"You just simply have to visit Rewardscanada.ca to become aware of existing opportunities, but we also have a weekly newsletter that provides a roundup of all the items added to website over the previous week," he explains.

Rewards Canada also features a blog and utilizes social media tools such as Facebook and Twitter. With a constant stream of new programs materializing, Sojka believes the choices are always growing and only getting better.

"It's an evolutionary process," he says. "New programs come out and improve on what the older ones provide."

To learn more, visit rewardscanada.ca/. *– Nicole Trask*

GEORGE DOYLE/STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

RECEIVE A WELL-DESERVED RETURN

There are customer loyalty incentives popping up everywhere, whether the focus is shopping, dining, fuel or even coffee.

Starbucks is one of the latest establishments to get on board with its My Starbucks Rewards card, which allows you to earn "stars" with every purchase. These can lead to free refills, a complimentary drink on your birthday, or a shot of syrup or soy milk at no extra charge. Once you have earned 30 points, Starbucks bumps you up to gold and the options expand even further.

The shopping options are also endless with Indigo Books and Music, Chapters, Sobeys and Staples, all offering a bounty of attractive deals. The Body Shop features the Love Your Body card, which allows members to receive 10 per cent off all qualifying purchases, birthday gift cards and exclusive offers during customer appreciation days.

With all the rewards programs bursting onto the scene, it has become easier than ever for loyal customers to save, feel appreciated and receive a well-deserved return on their purchases.

– Nicole Trask

OPTIONS ABOUND

FOR YOUR POINTS

Have you ever looked at piles of rewards points, thinking, "I can't get anything for that?" Take hope. You might not score that dream vacation, but there are ways to get something else worthwhile.

INSTANT REDUCTIONS

Some programs recognize clients don't want to save up — they want savings, now. Air Miles began a "cash" program in March due to customer demand. "They really wanted the instant benefit of being able to get cash off," says Rachel MacQueen, a spokesperson for Air Miles. "It's picking up great momentum."

Linda DiMaria is a Toronto-based collector who likes the idea of cheaper gas and groceries.

"In this day and age, when money is a little scarce, it's nice to be able to use it towards things that we do need right now," she says.

ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

TRADE 'EM IN

Explore whether you can exchange dead-weight points for useful ones. Your card issuer may already have agreements with other programs: For example, certain CIBC credit cards, American Express and Diners Club points can be converted into Aeroplan Miles. You need to own both accounts in the exchange. Be aware the exchange rate may not be a direct one-to-one.

There is also the Toronto-based company Points.com, which allows you to trade points with other cardholders — for a fee. "There's a lot of overlap in the types of programs that people are participating in," says Points.com president Christopher Barnard.

"We've spent the last 10 years building up a really great relationship with companies around the world." That allows the unique service to move trades securely from one account to another.

INTANGIBLE ITEMS

"I redeem online and get the gift cards through the mail, though I only do it once or twice a year after the points have accumulated," says Jessica Patterson, a Calgary-area collector. As a bonus, she can use the cards to shop for items on sale. If you are with RBC Rewards, you could even apply the points towards your mortgage or RRSP. "It's our fastest growing redemption option," says RBC spokesperson Matthew Gierasimczuk.

DONATE

Many points programs allow you to donate to charity. There are big causes like Engineers Without Borders and War Child Canada, but some programs also allow small charities to register like the local Scouts troop, daycare, or food bank. Some offer a charitable tax receipt.

Overall, Patrick Sojka, the editor of Rewards Canada.ca, thinks the field of non-traditional rewards may continue to see more options. "There are some people who have way more miles and points than they know what to do with," he says.

– Shaina Luck

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LOYAL CONSUMERS

CANADIANS CHOOSE RETAILERS BASED ON REWARDS: SURVEY

DIGITAL VISION/THINKSTOCK

Canadian consumers aren't the only ones who love loyalty points and rewards.

Retailers — from airlines and banks to grocery stores and hotels — love the sticky habits that keep their best customers coming back for more, new research shows.

A whopping 92 per cent of Canadians belong to at least one loyalty program.

The technical term for that sky-high participation rate is "everybody," quips Rob Daniel, vice-president of loyalty and research at Maritz Canada, a consulting firm that specializes in reward programs.

"The main reason why people love points and loyalty programs is really simple," he says. "They love the idea they're getting something in return for behaviours they would do anyway."

Each Canadian carries an average of six loyalty cards, although those who earn more than $125,000 per year have double that number.

Here's the part that businesses love: Affluent consumers are most likely to change their shopping patterns to accommodate loyalty programs.

That's according to a year-long survey commissioned by Maritz that spoke to more than 6,600 Canadians and covered 59 loyalty programs. It was released in February.

About two-thirds of those surveyed said they are more likely to continue doing business with a company that has a loyalty program. And just more than one-third, 35 per cent, have driven past one retailer to get to another one where they can earn more points.

"Participation in loyalty programs is universal," Daniel says. "What's surprising is that 62 per cent were willing to raise their hand and say it's a marketing scheme that actually pushes them to continue doing business with one brand over another."

That compares to just 10 per cent who will admit traditional marketing, such as advertising in newspapers, flyers or on TV, influences their shopping pattern.

"Consumers told us they are particularly loyal to programs that make them feel special, offer non-monetary privileges for members only, and communicate often in ways that consumers find personally relevant and interesting," Daniel adds.

– Torstar News Service

GETTING A RUSH

The Maritz Canada study on loyalty programs also found: 38 per cent of those surveyed will purchase a different brand than they normally use in order to maximize loyalty benefits; 69 per cent said the programs are worth the effort of participating; 45 per cent get a rush from watching loyalty program balances grow.

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NBA

NBA bans World Peace for 7 games

Lakers forward Metta World Peace has been suspended seven games by the NBA for elbowing James Harden, meaning he could miss at least six playoff games.

World Peace was ejected from Sunday's game for throwing an elbow that struck Harden in the back of the head, giving him a concussion.

World Peace, formerly known as Ron Artest, will miss the season finale on Thursday at Sacramento, then the next six games for which he is eligible.

The playoffs open Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Olympic soccer

"I watched from the stand, always dreamed of leading a team out there one day." **John Herdman, Canada's women's coach,** on being drawn to play at St. James' Park in his native Newcastle, England. Japan, Sweden, and South Africa round out Group F.

MLB

Blue Jays' streak ends in Baltimore

After their frolic in Kansas City, the Toronto Blue Jays got nothing but grief at Camden Yards.

The Blue Jays managed only five hits, wasted a fine pitching performance by Henderson Alvarez and gave up the decisive run on a homer that bounced off the glove of left-fielder Eric Thames. It all added up to a 2-1 loss to the Baltimore Orioles on Tuesday night.

Toronto was coming off a four-game sweep of the Royals,

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canucks captain Henrik Sedin arrives to talk to reporters and attend a team meeting on Tuesday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Staying the course is path for Canucks

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Edward Fraser
vancouver@metronews.ca

It's only natural to hold an autopsy to find the reasons why a season died too early. But what happens when the findings are too simple for those holding the scalpel? Straws find themselves grasped at. Guns get jumped. Wrong trees get barked up.

That's what's happening in the aftermath of the Canucks' loss to the Kings in the first round. Was the loss surprising? Sure. Shocking? No.

Even if all was right with the Canucks, the Kings were a nightmare matchup. Los Angeles had points in 12 of its final 14 games and had the league's hottest goaltender, Jonathan Quick, between the pipes.

But things weren't all right.

Daniel Sedin was on the sidelines, which not only took away his skill but also diminished the effectiveness of brother Henrik. Though Henrik had 13 points (one goal) in the 12 games Daniel was out of the lineup, you don't need numbers to see just how much more impact "Hank" had when his twin returned for Games 4 and 5. (Here are some numbers, anyway: When Daniel was out for 19 games in 2009-10, Henrik's points-per-game average was 0.89. With his brother riding shotgun in 63 contests, his PPG was 1.50).

Add to that the fact the power play, so good for the first half of the year, went bone dry when the calendar turned and you had a pretty solid recipe for an upset.

No, as unsatisfactory as it is, this is a team that doesn't need changes to finally make it over the hump. GM Mike Gillis is one of the league's best, as is coach Alain Vigneault. If they want to stay, they should stay. And the Canucks don't really need a new No. 1 goalie, but they'll get one after Roberto Luongo is run out of town and Cory Schneider gets a new deal. Beyond that and tying up the loose ends — Sami Salo is an unrestricted free agent; Mason Raymond is a restricted free agent — standing pat is a wise course of action, even though it may be the unpopular and more difficult one.

This is the new NHL. Each year eight to 10 teams are legitimate Stanley Cup contenders, and the one the hockey gods cast health and luck upon gets to hoist the chalice.

The Canucks need tweaks, not a teardown.

'This is still a good hockey team': GM

Canucks president and general manager Mike Gillis speaks to reporters on Tuesday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

At an emotional post-mortem Tuesday, Canucks GM and president Mike Gillis eulogized a disappointing post-season run by pledging to keep the team's offence-first strategy alive.

"I believe in offence, I always have," he said. "I believe the league believes in offence, and if not they should change the name of the game to 'goalie.'"

Gillis covered a wide range of topics, repeatedly giving votes of confidence to both head coach Alain Vigneault and goaltender Roberto Luongo.

The take-home message was that the Canucks organization is not in panic mode, however much some might want them to be.

Quoted

"The Boston game was a peak, it took a lot of time to get back to our game after that.... We just weren't sharp, weren't executing."

Canucks forward Daniel Sedin on an emotional 4-3 win over the Bruins in Boston on January 7th that his team never recovered from.

Gillis, along with Daniel and Henrik Sedin, identified the mid-season Stanley Cup final rematch against Boston as the turning point for their season.

"It was almost like playing a Stanley Cup final game in the middle of the season," Gillis said. "From that point on, I don't think our team ever really collectively got their emotions together.

"We got 111 points this season. As much as people might like to think that that was an accident, it wasn't. This is still a good hockey team."

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

4 SPORTS

Quoted

"Typically, I'd be there in a second, but this isn't a normal situation and this isn't me trying to hide away from the world championships. I love playing for Team Canada.... Anyone who is questioning that right now obviously doesn't know me or aren't thinking right."

Sidney Crosby, who strongly defended his decision to not play for Canada in the upcoming world hockey championship on Tuesday, saying he needs to go through the full summer of preparation he missed because of a concussion last year.

"Really, I don't have a choice."

Crosby's Pittsburgh Penguins teammate Evgeni Malkin, who will suit up for Russia at the event in Helsinki and Stockholm from May 4-20.

On the web

It's been a crazy month for golfer Bubba Watson after winning the Masters in a sudden-death playoff on April 8. But, despite the recent fanfare, the lefty with a flair for the dramatic says he's still "just Bubba." Now Watson's back to work preparing to defend his title this week at the Zurich Classic. Scan the code for the story.

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Travis Zajac celebrates after he scored the game-winning goal in overtime against the Florida Panthers on Tuesday in Newark, N.J. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Rejuvenated Zajac scores in OT to force Game 7

NHL. Yet another Eastern Conference first-round series going the distance

The New Jersey Devils are still alive in the Stanley Cup chase because of a player who spent most of the season off the ice working his way back from an Achilles tendon injury.

Travis Zajac scored at 5:39 of overtime and the Devils avoided elimination and sent yet another Eastern Conference first-round series to a seventh game with a 3-2 victory over the Florida Panthers on Tuesday night.

Game 6

Devils	Panthers
3	2

"It's fun to be back competing and playing at this time of year," said Zajac, whose season was limited to 15 regular-season games because of an Achilles injury in August that required surgery.

The Devils will be playing in Game 7 in Florida on Thursday because Zajac scored his biggest goal of the season on a counterattack against Panthers goalie Scott Clemmensen.

Zajac cleared the puck from in front of a harried Martin Brodeur and started a rush up the ice. Zach Parise took his cross-ice pass and gave the puck to Ilya Kovalchuk, who found Zajac skating down the left wing for a shot along the ice into the net.

"Kovy gets the puck at the far blue-line and draws a couple of guys to him," Zajac said. "He made a really nice play to me and I just wanted to get a quick shot on net. I was lucky to beat Clemmer there."

It sparked a wild celebration in the corner.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

Riders bring in receiver Moss

Sinorice Moss is looking to kick-start his football career in the CFL.

The receiver who earned a Super Bowl ring with the 2007 New York Giants was among three import players to agree to terms with the Saskatchewan Roughriders on Tuesday. The others were offensive lineman Johan Asiata and linebacker Daniel Sheffield.

The Miami native spent five seasons with New York, registering 39 catches for 421 yards and three touchdowns.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soccer. Whitecaps move striker Clarke to MLS roster

The Vancouver Whitecaps added Canadian striker Caleb Clarke to the club's Major League Soccer roster Tuesday as a homegrown player.

The 18-year-old from Richmond scored 20 goals in 19 games for the Whitecaps' residency team in 2011-12.

A Canadian under-20 international, Clarke is the Whitecaps' sixth homegrown signing.

"Caleb is a powerful striker with great finishing abilities," Whitecaps head coach Martin Rennie said in a release. "He has been part of the club as a member of the residency program for over two years and has progressed well from our residency program into our first team.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ban for elbow on Whitecap

- The MLS Disciplinary Committee has suspended FC Dallas forward Blas Perez one game and fined him an undisclosed amount for endangering the safety of an opponent.
- Perez elbowed Jordan Harvey in the 29th minute of the April 21 game against the Whitecaps. Vancouver won the game 1-0.

New hybrid compact a big draw

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Review. A hybrid for less than $23,000 that pulls down 3.5 l/100 km in the city? Sold.

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

The most popular gasoline-electric hybrid brand around is now a lineup unto itself and the all-new Toyota Prius c is the smallest and least expensive of the bunch.

With fuel costs soaring, it's likely that hybrid demand will accelerate in spite of a continued price gap compared to gasoline-only vehicles. That's good news for Toyota's four-model Prius line and especially good news for the new Prius c (c is for compact).

Although small in stature — 48 centimetres shorter and about five centimetres narrower than the current Prius hatchback — the Prius c comes up big in minimizing fuel consumption, registering 3.5 l/100 km in the city and 4.0 highway. By comparison, the regular Prius's numbers are 3.7/4.0. The combined city/highway number for both is nearly identical at 3.7 for the c and 3.8 for the Prius.

So exactly what advantage does the smaller Prius c hold over its equally thrifty namesake? Actually, there are about 5,000 of them, which is the difference in dollars that distinguish the two Toyotas. The c's on-the-road base tariff is $22,550, placing it well within reach for many buyers and, for example, is only about $5,500 pricier than a Toyota Corolla and actually $1,000 cheaper than the Honda Insight hybrid.

With the Prius c's launch — as well as the launch of the plug-in model and the larger v wagon — Toyota is showing its continuing dominance in the hybrid category by stretching the brand to fit a broader audience. The c is the first, however, to truly challenge entry-level gas-only models on their own turf — which is price point — while providing significantly better economy.

If you concede that the regular Prius and the smaller c consume about the same fuel, then why does the c cost so much less? You actually get less — less space and less power.

The Prius c dash layout is pitched to the right of the driver, although not really for functional or aesthetic reasons.

By comparison

1 Honda CR-Z
Base price: $24,100

2 Honda Insight
Base price: $23,500

3 Kia Rio 5-Door
Base price: $15,600

5 DRIVE

Top Gear

Handy winder strikes a 'cord'

Most garages or shops contain extension cords that are left in a tangled state and usually take forever to straighten out. The Wonder Winder, manufactured by U.S. company Green Leaf, is a wall- or post-mounted device that keeps up to 46 metres of extension cord neatly coiled at all times. The Wonder Winder, which sells in the $20-$25 US range, also comes with a quick-release mechanism so it can be moved wherever it's needed. For purchasing info, go to grnleafinc.com/Wonder_Winder.asp. You can also locate this product at amazon.com and genuinehotrod.com.

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Lost in thought? Your driving will get worse

The scary thing here is that this daydreamer is behind the wheel. ISTOCK

Driving Force. Whether you're 20 or 60, daydreaming while on the road is hazardous, study confirms

JIL MCINTOSH
Drive@metronews.ca

Drivers who are distracted by their cellphones or text messages are hazardous, but even being deep in thought can affect how people act behind the wheel, according to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). If you're daydreaming, you're less likely to scan the road ahead of you for hazards.

"The act of thinking impacts what we're doing," says Bryan Reimer, a research scientist at the MIT AgeLab.

"The brain is a very fancy computer, but it's a single processor. We do task switching, back and forth between two tasks. We'd like to be like a multi-core processor, but we're not."

The study determined that the deeper in thought a driver is, the less he focuses on his surroundings. To test the theory, drivers were sent out on a route. They had to listen to a recording of someone reading numbers and then perform three separate tasks: repeat the number they'd just heard, repeat one number back, and then repeat the second number back.

"There was no computation involved, just memory," Reimer says. "The two-back demand was about as difficult a task as you'd be willing to give an individual when they're driving."

Previous studies looked at whether drivers were distracted or not, but Reimer says this is too simple. Instead, there are levels of cognitive demand and their effects are distinguishable.

Somewhat surprisingly, age didn't make a difference. The level of distraction caused by trying to remember the numbers was the same in those in their 20s and in their 60s.

While some people think a phone call isn't any more distracting than a passenger, Reimer disagrees.

"If the light turns red, the person you're talking to (on the phone) keeps talking," he says. A passenger sees the red light and changes the pace of the conversation, which can lead the driver to pay more attention.

Drivers lost in thought or on the phone tend to drive straight, but their reaction time is slower.

"You drive straighter because your eyes are tuned forward, but you're scanning less," Reimer says.

"You also drive slower and change lanes less frequently. You're compensating for that increased demand."

Tuning out

- While a stereo can be distracting, especially if it's too loud, drivers tend to "tune out" the music when something on the road demands their attention.
- Good drivers constantly scan ahead, including sidewalks and cross-streets, looking for potential hazards.

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Top Gear

Racked over economy

Who wants to waste fuel? If you're planning to install or replace the roof rack on your vehicle, you might want to check out the new wind-tunnel-tested Whispbar series from Yakima. The company states that these racks have been specifically designed by a former Rolls-Royce aircraft engineer to cut down on wind noise, aerodynamic drag and vibration. And that apparently helps fuel efficiency (every little bit helps). As an added bonus, they also happen to look good. There are four different styles of Whispbar, depending on your needs and vehicle type, with prices ranging from $450 to $550 US (including security locks). Get the full story on the Whispbar and where-to-buy info at yakima.com/learn/whispbar.

Top Gear

What smell?

The baby just burped up lunch on the seat, the kids you picked up after ball practice left their smelly team jerseys and socks on the floor and Uncle Harry's cigar extinguished itself in your ashtray. Your vehicle is not a pleasant place. You need help, but the last thing you want is some cheap thing hanging from the mirror that smells worse than the odours you want to eliminate. Well, the people who make Febreze for households have now added Febreze Auto. The manufacturer claims its "low-scent, maximum-strength" product works on fabric seat covers, carpeted floors and even upholstered infant carriers, but not on anything leather or vinyl. Febreze Auto sells for about $6 and is available at most grocery or department stores, including Walmart. For more info go to febreze.com.

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Good weather or not, long weekend is coming

Tips. RVs can provide a different kind of holiday road trip experience for families

Across the country, the Victoria Day long weekend tends to be the official launch of summer. It's the time of year when everyone throws off their winter coats and quickly dons shorts and tees, even if Environment Canada warns of -5 C with blowing snow. Regardless, Canadians everywhere are itching to get outside and get away.

For a growing number of Canadians, that means hitting the road in a recreational vehicle. There's a wide assortment to choose from these days — everything from expensive bus-like motor-homes, to towable travel trailers, to camper vans, to relatively inexpensive pop-up camping trailers. Recreational vehicles are growing in popularity mainly because they're fun, and provide a greater sense of freedom and adventure compared to standard holiday trips.

Although you don't need a special licence to drive most recreational vehicles, it isn't the same as driving the family car. The experts at Desjardins General Insurance Group advise the following:

• Be cautious and allow more time to brake, change lanes, turn and merge into traffic.

• Be sure your vehicle can handle the trailer you are towing. Most SUVs, light-duty trucks and full and mid-size family cars can pull an RV trailer, but be sure to check the maximum weight and factor in any of your belongings inside the trailer.

• Use the right trailer hitch, connect brake and signal lights and make sure they are synchronized with your vehicle.

• Be aware of the height of your vehicle. You wouldn't want to ruin your vacation by getting your RV stuck or damaged by a tree branch or sign.

• If you've never pulled a trailer before, you'll probably find that backing up is the biggest challenge. If possible, get some practice with the help of someone experienced with trailers before heading out on your holiday. And always ask someone to stand outside the vehicle when reversing to avoid any obstacles not seen in your mirrors.

Whether you own or rent your mobile vacation home, the Desjardins General Insurance Group says it's important to make sure you have adequate insurance coverage before heading out into traffic.

NEWS CANADA

Reversing with a trailer in tow can be tricky, so it's a good idea to have someone stand outside your vehicle and direct you. NEWS CANADA

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MITSUBISHI MOTORS

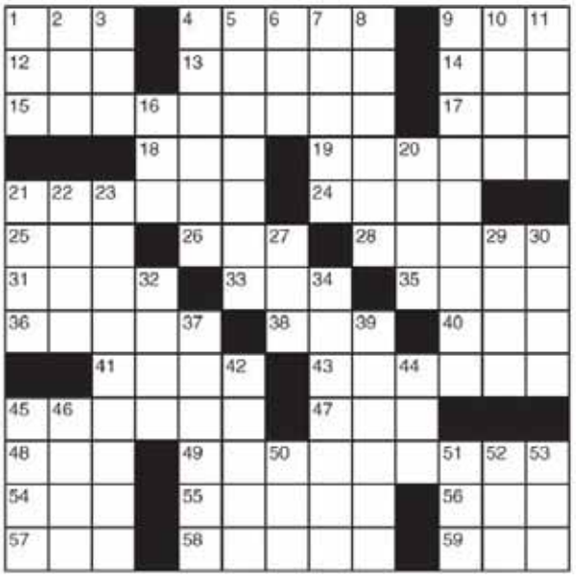
Crossword

Across

1 Triangle part
4 Walked the floor
9 Scatter seed
12 Bullring bravo
13 Earlier on the page
14 Swiss canton
15 Energetic determination
17 Snooze
18 Canal zone?
19 Drawing for a prize
21 Choose
24 Cash drawer
25 Carte lead-in
26 Desire
28 Detroit football team
31 Deviates off course
33 Society newcomer
35 Foolish bloke
36 Cancel
38 Lubricant
40 Old French coin
41 Anthropologist Margaret
43 Swerved
45 Inclement
47 With 16-Down, "Brokeback Mountain" director
48 Legislation
49 Quasimodo's place
54 Gorilla
55 Herded
56 Rage
57 Apiece
58 Skiers' mecca
59 Joke

Down

1 Depressed
2 Inventor Whitney
3 Solidify
4 Pontiff's term of office
5Scrubbed a launch
6 Intimidate
7 Chris of tennis fame
8 Throw off track
9 Kansas emblem
10 Exam format
11 Clean the slate
16 See 47-Across
20 Go like a butterfly
21 "I — Little Prayer"
22 Verve
23 Groundskeeper's machine
27 Ultra-modernist
29 Pleasant
30 Poker variety
32 Litigant
34 Clam or oyster
37 Greek consonant
39 Meager
42 Color workers
44 Freudian topic
45 Rebuff a masher
46 Recording



50 Prune
51 Peruke
52 Mound stat
53 — U.S. Pat. Off.

Sudoku

6					8	4	7	
	3			6		9	5	
9			4					1
				8			9	7
		6				5		
3	2			4				
1					9			5
	6	7		5			2	
	9	5	1					8

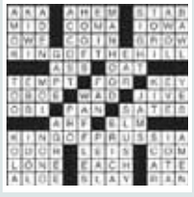
How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku

5	1	3	6	2	4	7	9	8
7	8	9	3	1	5	4	6	2
6	2	4	8	7	9	3	5	1
3	4	1	2	8	6	5	7	9
8	7	5	9	3	1	2	4	6
9	6	2	5	4	7	8	1	3
1	3	6	4	5	2	9	8	7
2	5	7	1	9	8	6	3	4
4	9	8	7	6	3	1	2	5

Yesterday's Crossword



Cryptoquip

How to play

This is a substitution cipher where one letter stands for another. Eg: If X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle.

APNMBR U ZNSOZ CNNI

UCNMD ANST AMJTG-JNDTHD

CUIOHQ ADMYY QTD DODBTR

"DPT YUHDUADOZ YBNMG"?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A RESTAURANT, FEELING LIKE IT DIDN'T CHARGE ENOUGH FOR FILLETS, DECIDED TO RAISE THE STEAKS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals T

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Today 12°/8° Rain 90%
Thursday 12°/7° Showers 40%
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend
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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. You can make things happen today through sheer force of personality. There is no such word as "can't" in your vocabulary.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Sometimes in life, you have no choice but to sit back and wait it out. This is one of those occasions.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. Whatever you do on the spur of the moment today will work out well – or at least do no lasting damage.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. Sometimes you can be a bit too cautious for your own good, which means you don't always achieve what you should.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. With mind planet Mercury at odds with Pluto today confidence alone won't take you far. Plan ahead.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. A rival may have more talent than you but you possess something infinitely more important: staying power. Keep that in mind.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. You need to free yourself of something that is holding you back. Be ruthless and don't let friends and family members talk you out of it.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You don't need permission to think, speak or act. Stand up for yourself and your beliefs!

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. It'd be a mistake to do anything strenuous over the next 24 hours.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Don't be afraid to explore new experiences. The Sun in Taurus at this time of year makes you incredibly adventurous.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. The more you try to move in a certain direction, the more events conspire to block your progress. Take the hint and hold back for a while.

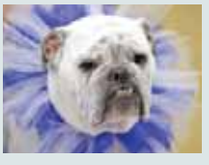
Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Something will happen today that throws your plans into disarray. It's all good. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"What did you say about my mama?!"
Danielle

FRANK AUGSTEIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!



You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

BLAH HURT NUMB ANGRY ANXIOUS DOWN NOT myself TODAY

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ON SELECTED MODELS[Ω]

Limited model shown

2012 SONATA

Most fuel-efficient full-size car▲

OWN IT $134† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT | WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS | SAVE 25¢/L UNTIL 2013[Ω] | AND $0 DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE: $24,264* SONATA GL 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED

HIGHWAY 5.7L/100 KM 50 MPG▼

$500 FACTORY TO DEALER CREDIT‡

GLS model shown

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SELLING PRICE: $19,194* INCLUDES $500 FACTORY TO DEALER CREDIT‡ ELANTRA TOURING GL 5-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED

HIGHWAY 6.4L/100 KM 44 MPG▼

2012 ELANTRA TOURING GL

Spirit & practicality in perfect balance

BONUS 7 YEAR WARRANTY 120,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY^

Limited model shown

OWN IT $142† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT | WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS | SAVE 30¢/L UNTIL 2013[Ω] | AND $0 DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE: $25,759* SANTA FE GL 2.4 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED

HIGHWAY 7.7L/100 KM 37 MPG▼

2012 SANTA FE

Powerful & efficient – the true definition of a cross-over

$1,000 FACTORY TO CUSTOMER CREDIT◊

GLS model shown

OWN IT $189† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT INCLUDES $1,000 FACTORY TO CUSTOMER CREDIT◊ | WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS | SAVE 40¢/L UNTIL 2013[Ω] | AND $0 DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE: $34,259* INCLUDES $1,000 FACTORY TO CUSTOMER CREDIT◊ VERACRUZ GL FWD. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED

HIGHWAY 8.5L/100 KM 33 MPG▼

2012 VERACRUZ

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"It's a seven-seater, mid-size SUV with serious cargo and people-carrying capacity." – the Globe and Mail

BONUS 7 YEAR WARRANTY 120,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY^

Limited model shown

OWN IT $102† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT | WITH 1.9% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS | SAVE 20¢/L UNTIL 2013[Ω] | AND $0 DOWN PAYMENT

SELLING PRICE: $17,344* ELANTRA L 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED

HIGHWAY 4.9L/100 KM 58 MPG▼

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D#31042

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